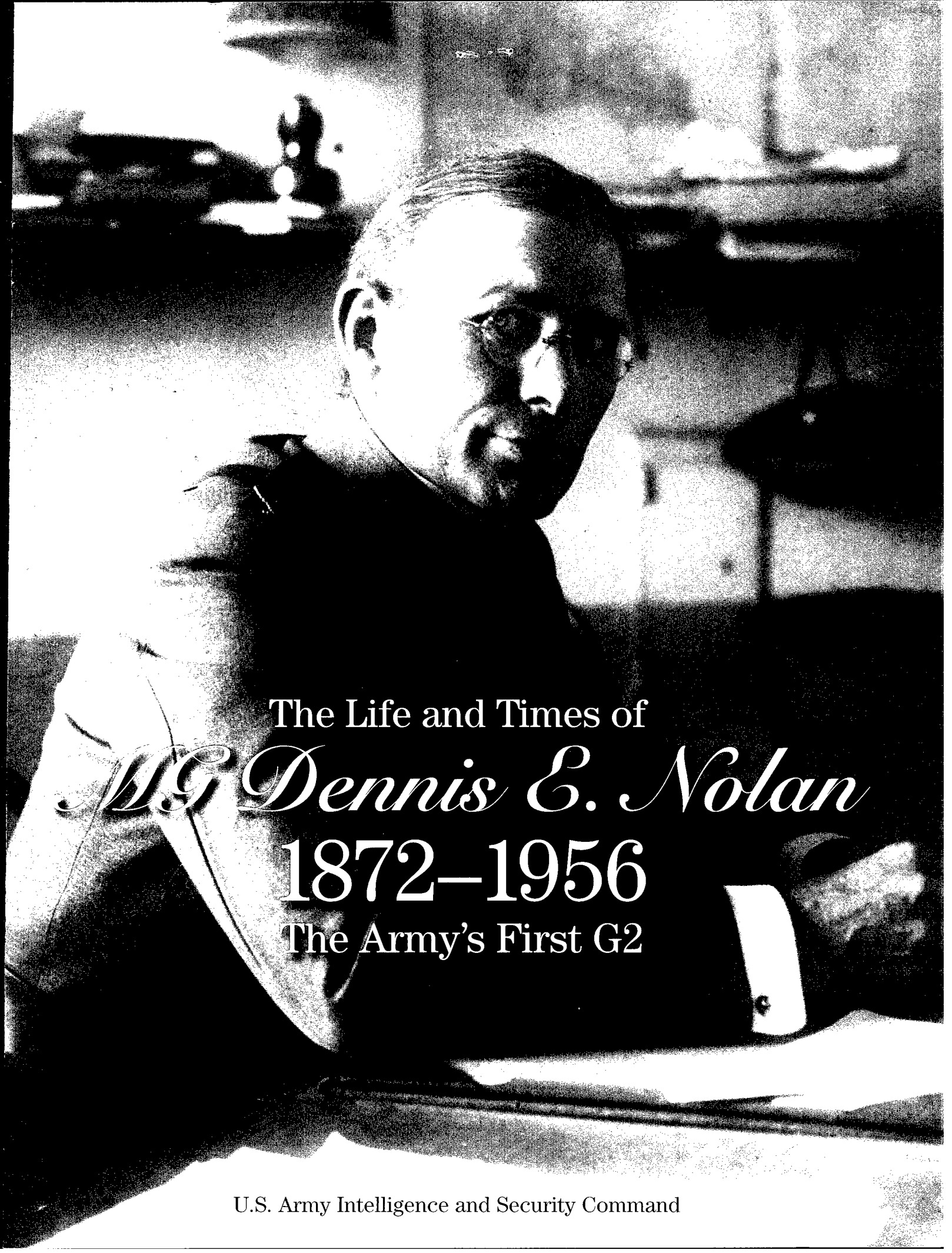


The Life and Times of

M.G. Dennis E. Nolan

1872–1956

The Army's First G2

U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command

AQ # 1199-03-0219

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BLOCK BELOW:

☐ _____ copies are being forwarded. Indicate whether Statement A, B, C, D, E, F, or X applies.

☒ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A:
APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE: DISTRIBUTION IS UNLIMITED

☐ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT B:
DISTRIBUTION AUTHORIZED TO U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ONLY; (Indicate Reason and Date). OTHER REQUESTS FOR THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE REFERRED TO (Indicate Controlling DoD Office).

☐ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT C:
DISTRIBUTION AUTHORIZED TO U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND THEIR CONTRACTORS; (Indicate Reason and Date). OTHER REQUESTS FOR THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE REFERRED TO (Indicate Controlling DoD Office).

☐ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT D:
DISTRIBUTION AUTHORIZED TO DoD AND U.S. DoD CONTRACTORS ONLY; (Indicate Reason and Date). OTHER REQUESTS SHALL BE REFERRED TO (Indicate Controlling DoD Office).

☐ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT E:
DISTRIBUTION AUTHORIZED TO DoD COMPONENTS ONLY; (Indicate Reason and Date). OTHER REQUESTS SHALL BE REFERRED TO (Indicate Controlling DoD Office).

☐ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT F:
FURTHER DISSEMINATION ONLY AS DIRECTED BY (Indicate Controlling DoD Office and Date) or HIGHER DoD AUTHORITY.

☐ DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT X:
DISTRIBUTION AUTHORIZED TO U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS OR ENTERPRISES ELIGIBLE TO OBTAIN EXPORT-CONTROLLED TECHNICAL DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH DoD DIRECTIVE 5230.25, WITHHOLDING OF UNCLASSIFIED TECHNICAL DATA FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, 6 Nov 1984 (Indicate date of determination). CONTROLLING DoD OFFICE IS (Indicate Controlling DoD Office).

☐ This document was previously forwarded to DTIC on _____ (date) and the AD number is _____.

☐ In accordance with provisions of DoD instructions, the document requested is not supplied because:

☐ It will be published at a later date. (Enter approximate date, if known).

☐ Other. (Give Reason)

DoD Directive 5230.24, "Distribution Statements on Technical Documents," 18 Mar 87, contains seven distribution statements, as described briefly above. Technical Documents must be assigned distribution statements.

Per telecon K Kobach
Print or Type Name

_____
Authorized Signature/Date

706-1638
Telephone Number

The Life and Times of
MG Dennis E. Nolan
1872–1956
The Army's First G2



19981214 060

History Office
Office of the Chief of Staff
U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command
Fort Belvoir, Virginia
1998

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 4

AQ U99-03-0219

PREFACE

The Intelligence and Security Command dedicated its new headquarters building at Fort Belvoir in honor of Major General Dennis Edward Nolan. This short biography is intended to provide members of the command with an understanding of the contributions MG Nolan made to military intelligence.

The story of Dennis E. Nolan, an 1896 West Point graduate and career Army officer, is more than a biography of one man—it is also the story of the development of modern military intelligence and the emergence of the United States as a world power. The year 1998 is the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. An important turning point in American history, the Spanish-American War marked the end of America's inward focus and the beginning of "looking outward." From 1898 to the present American interests have spread to the four corners of the earth.

A veteran of the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, and World War I, MG Nolan saw 40 years of active military service and the technical breakthroughs that changed military intelligence as the country moved into the 20th century. With the entry of the United States into World War I, General John J. Pershing selected Colonel Nolan to administer the intelligence operations of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), thereby making Nolan, in effect, the Army's first G2. Upon promotion to brigadier general in August 1918, Nolan became one of the first general officers associated with modern military intelligence. Nolan also played a direct role in organizing the Corps of Intelligence Police—the Army's first permanent counterintelligence organization and one of the traditional roots of INSCOM.

This publication was written by Karen Kovach, writer-editor, INSCOM History Office. Mr. James L. Gilbert, Command Historian, originated the idea for this publication, and his oversight and suggestions have guided its development. Ms. Diane L. Hamm was responsible for identifying and collecting many of the photos. Mr. Robert J. Bills, Staff Photographer, reproduced all photos used in the book. Much of the history of military intelligence was drawn from the work of Dr. John P. Finnegan, who provided a valuable critique to ensure historical accuracy. Credit for the design and format of this publication belongs to Janice Sterling, of the Office of Typography and Design, U.S. Government Printing Office. Mr. Benjamin Bryant, a visual information specialist with the office of the G6, Visual Information Division and Mr. James D. Currie, Jr., INSCOM Chief of Publications and Printing, assisted in production.

The photographs used in this book came from the files of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA); the Library of Congress (LC); the U.S. Military Academy at West Point (USMA); the U.S. Coast Guard; the MacArthur Memorial Museum & Archives (MMM&A); the Sheldon Museum & Cultural Center, Haines, Alaska (SM&CC); The New York Times; and the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM). Photographs were also provided courtesy of the Akron, New York Historical Society and the Nolan family.

The INSCOM History Office gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the Nolan family and the Akron Historical Society to this publication. Without their support this manuscript would not have been possible. Especial appreciation goes to Martin E. Nolan, Col, USA (Ret.), for his research, photos, and personal recollections of General and Mrs. Nolan. The Akron Historical Society contributed photographs of 19th century Akron, New York, and articles on the general's service with the American Expeditionary Force. A special thanks to the Nolan family who gave the medals awarded to MG Nolan throughout his career to INSCOM. Because of their generous gift, MG Nolan's medals are displayed in the lobby of the Nolan Building.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE iii

CHAPTER 1:
THE END OF AN ERA

The Nolan Family and Akron, New York 1
West Point 6

CHAPTER 2:
THE BEGINNING OF A MILITARY CAREER

The Spanish-American War 9
The Ill-Fated Gussie Expedition 9
The Cuban Campaign 9
The Philippine Campaign 12

CHAPTER 3:
LIFE AS A STAFF OFFICER

Return from the Philippines 15
The General Staff 17
A Second Tour in the Philippines 18
Return to the United States 19
Preparing for War 21

CHAPTER 4:
CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE SERVICES

The American Expeditionary Force General Staff 23
G2 of the American Expeditionary Force 24
Propaganda and Censorship 32
Combat Commander 34

CHAPTER 5:
THE POST WAR YEARS

Demobilization 37
In the Spotlight 39
The Final Tour 41
Public Servant 46

CHAPTER ONE:
THE END OF AN ERA

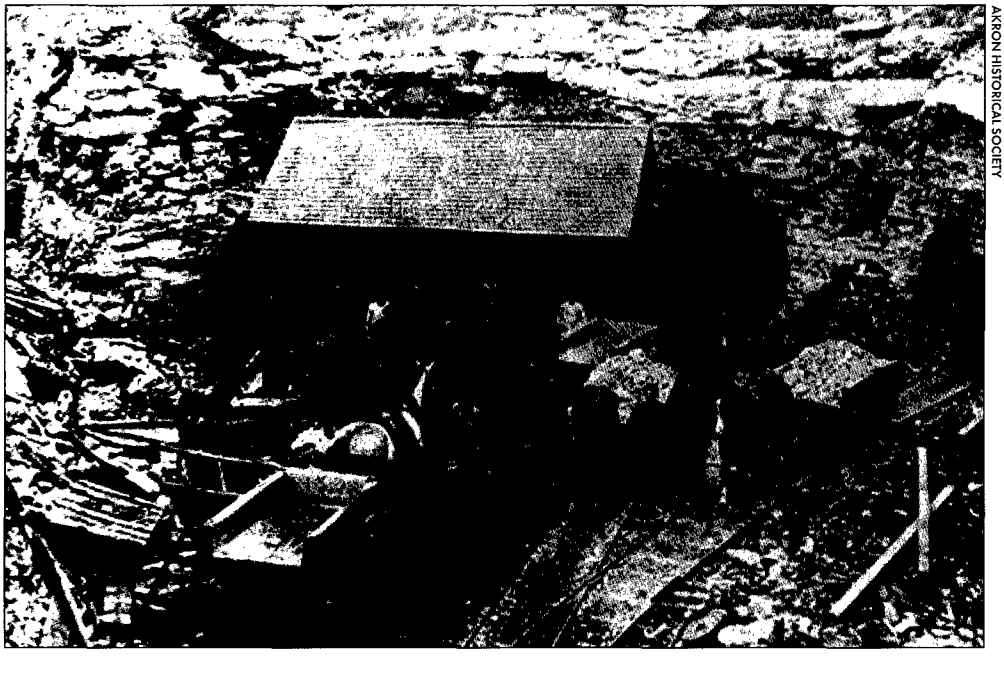
THE NOLAN FAMILY AND AKRON, NEW YORK

Dennis E. Nolan was the oldest of six children from a first-generation Irish-American family. In 1866, Dennis's father, Martin Nolan, was in the first great wave of Europeans to emigrate to America in the aftermath of the Civil War. He disembarked at Castle Gardens in New York Harbor, where hundreds of immigrants were processed each day. Many remained in the city, but others traveled west in search of land or good paying jobs. Buffalo, N.Y., located at the beginning of an established travel route that ran from western New York to the upper Great Lakes and Canada, became a primary starting point on the east-west route. While many settlers continued their travels westward, Martin Nolan chose to settle in the small village of Akron, just east of Buffalo.

By the time Martin arrived in Akron, the town was showing all the signs of prosperity. The discovery of limestone near Akron in 1839 had led to the rise of a thriving manufacturing center. Limestone was first used as fertilizer, but was later found to be a superior grade of cement when mixed with water. The E.J. Newman Company had built a cement mill and a second mill was under construction. Until the end of the century, the cement businesses prospered, ultimately earning Akron the reputation as the largest cement manufacturing center in the world. Akron was growing rapidly with regular arrivals of new immigrants from Ireland and Germany in search of employment. The work in the mine tunnels and at the plant kilns was physically demanding and often dangerous, but miners received a top wage of $1.25 a day.

Within four years Martin Nolan had become an American citizen and married Honora Cunningham, newly arrived from Ireland. The Nolans set up housekeeping in a frame house fronting East Avenue, a main artery through the town. The couple's first child, Dennis Edward, was born on April 22, 1872.

Dennis's early years were typical of a boyhood spent in a small northern town approaching the end



AKRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

An interesting view of the mines of the Newman Cement Works in Akron, NY. The mining of limestone was the lifeblood of Akron. Horse drawn mining carts carrying limestone to the mills passed the Nolan home. Dennis and his brothers likely held temporary jobs with the mining companies.

of the 19th century. Days were spent attending school and working on the farm. He performed all the duties that customarily fell to the first-born son. Dennis's chores on his parents' small farm helped to supplement his father's seasonal work at the cement plant and support the younger children: Daniel, who was 2 years younger than Dennis, followed by Mary, Catherine, Sarah, and Martin.

Still, there was time to develop his athletic skills, attend the annual Fourth of July celebration, and enjoy the summer concerts performed by Akron's pride: "The Excelsior Cornet Band." When he was 17 years old, Dennis became a volunteer fireman, joining the Cataract Engine Hose Company No. 1.

The senior Nolans gave to their children an abiding faith in God and love of country, along with a desire to better themselves and a willingness to work hard. They emphasized the importance of education and encouraged the children to obtain as much schooling as possible, even though Dennis's father himself would never learn to read and write.



AKRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Nolan home on East Avenue in Akron, shown in this photo taken around 1980, looks as it did when the family lived there.



AKRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This view looking west on Main Street, Akron, NY, was taken around 1912. It appears much as it did when Dennis Nolan graduated from Akron Union School in 1892.



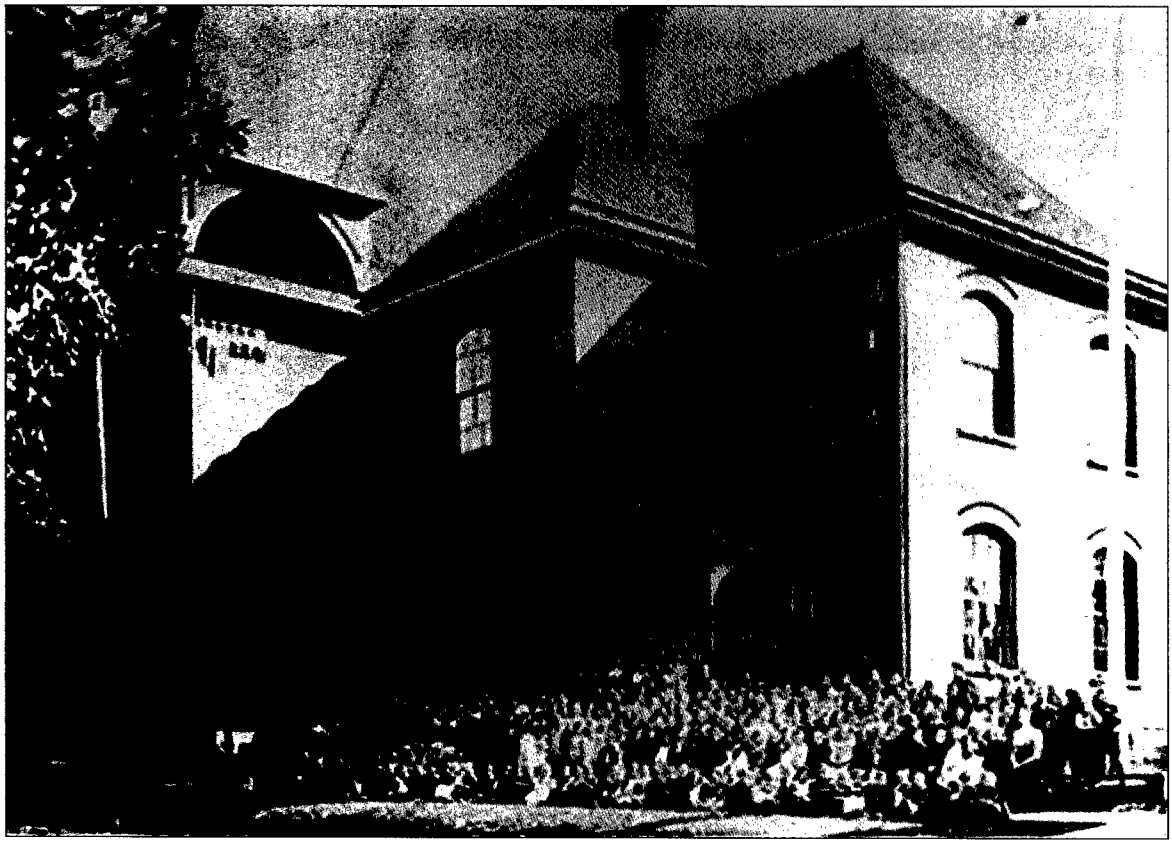
NOLAN FAMILY

Dennis Nolan's mother, Honora Cunningham Nolan, age 90.



NOLAN FAMILY

The Nolan brothers: Dennis, on the right, seated next to Daniel.



AKRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Akron Union School in the early 1890's. All the Nolan children graduated from this school.



AKRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Class of 1892: Dennis Nolan, Nellie Perkins, Emma Parks, Nellie Hoag, Carrie Bates, and Grace Churchill.



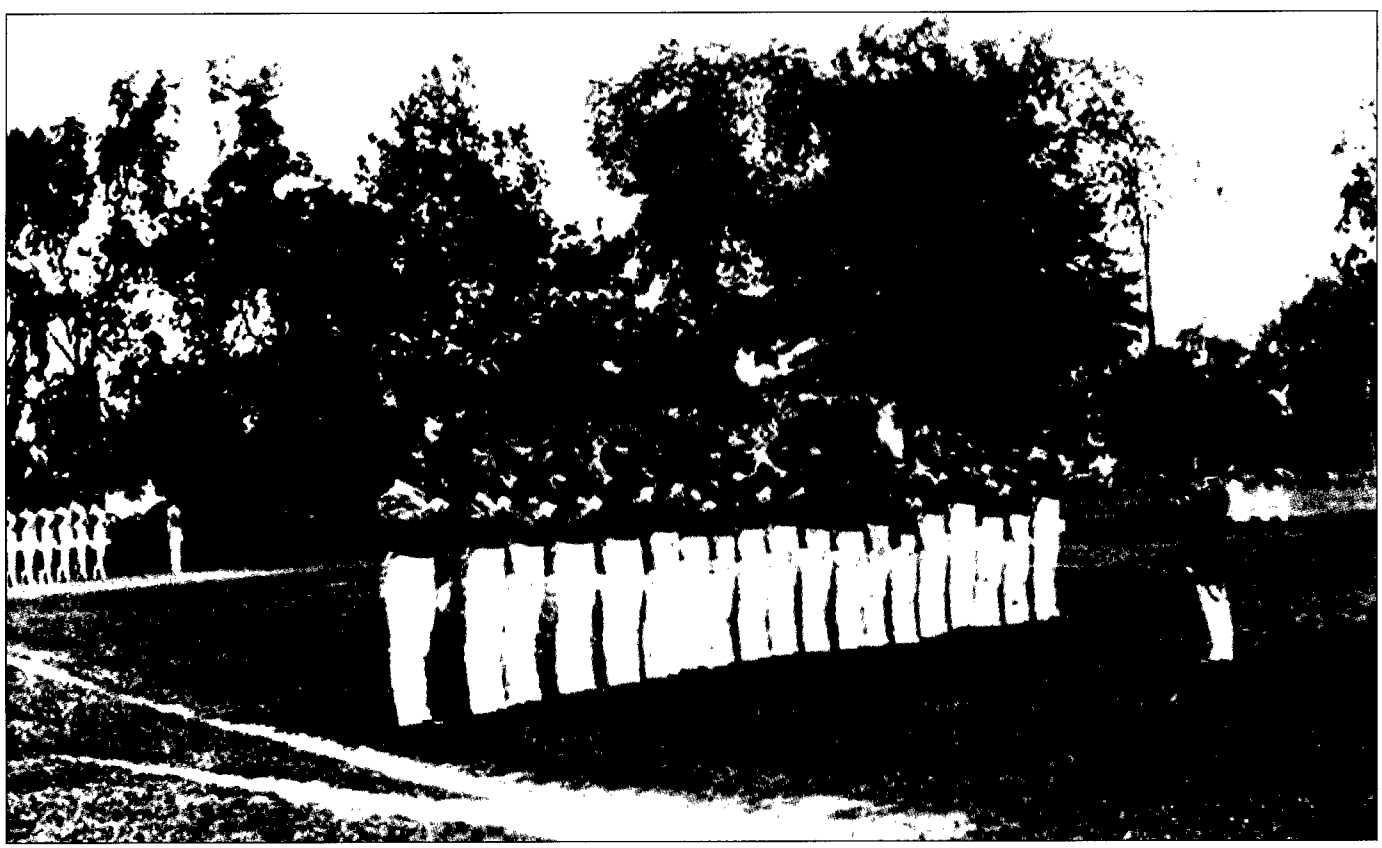
NOLAN FAMILY

Dennis admired the teachers and greatly benefited from instruction at the local public schools. He hoped to one day become a teacher himself and taught in a nearby elementary school for 2 years before graduating from high school in 1892.

Each of the children selected public service careers. Daniel pursued a military career, obtaining the rank of colonel and making the generals list prior to his retirement. Mary and Sarah became school teachers; and Catherine trained to be a nurse. The youngest brother, Martin, studied medicine and served in World War I as a physician with the American Expeditionary Force in France.

Nolan as a cadet.

Dennis was known as "Sep" to his fellow cadets because he didn't arrive at West Point until September, missing the initial summer camp. His yearbook read "better late than never."



USMA

Parade at Summer Camp.

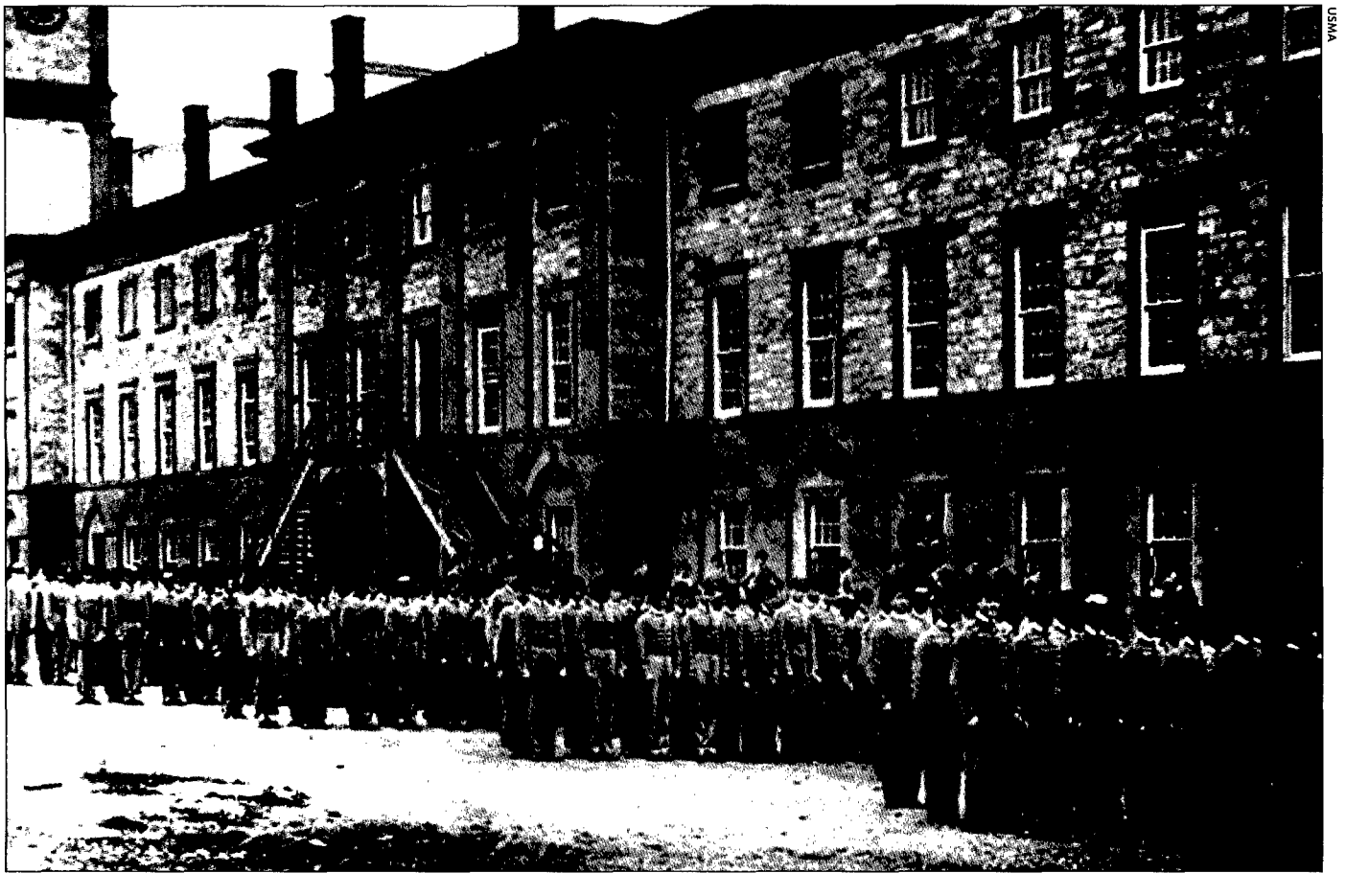
WEST POINT

Upon graduation, Dennis prepared to enroll at Cornell University at Ithaca, N.Y., where he would pursue a teaching career. But fate intervened. Dennis had already developed an interest in the military. Knowledge of Army life came partly by way of newspapers and magazines. It was the Army of the past, however, that Dennis was more likely to have come in daily contact with. Civil War veterans were among the community's leading citizenry. Also, a significant portion of United States history taught in school was devoted to military history. During his senior year in high school, Dennis undertook to read the official history of the Army's great battles. When the local Congressman was presented with an unexpected vacancy to the U.S. Military Academy, Dennis Edward Nolan took the competitive exam, obtained the highest score, and received his appointment to West Point.

The competition and selection process for the appointment to West Point had caused Dennis to arrive late, missing the summer encampment. From early June through August cadets lived in tents on the plateau above the Hudson, where they learned about practical soldiering and spent hours on end drilling. Dennis's arrival in September earned him the nickname "Sep" and in his yearbook fellow cadets inscribed "Better late than never."

Nolan arrived at a West Point largely unchanged in its traditions and academic curriculum. The Academy had been established in 1802 as part of the Corps of Engineers and served as an apprentice school for military engineers. It had the dual mission of producing military officers who were trained for war, but who also possessed the engineering skills needed to build the infrastructure to support America's westward expansion. The West Point curriculum provided training in weapons handling, leadership, and drilling, but the Academy, still rooted in the past, continued to teach tactics and strategy of the Civil War era.

West Point Academic Section Formation.



USMA

Dennis attended classes in mathematics, science, and engineering in addition to military training. Math was not his strong suit. To fulfill the language requirement, he studied French. He would comment after retiring from military service: "I never was able to talk French satisfactorily, but during the war I made enough progress to follow a conversation." Although Dennis did not distinguish himself as a scholar, ranking 51st out of 73 in the class of 1896, he excelled in sports.

Dennis received two letters for baseball, but he was best known for his outstanding play on the gridiron. For 3 years Cadet Nolan starred on both offense and defense. During his senior year, Nolan helped West Point to a record 5 wins, losing only to perennial powers Yale and Harvard. The 1895 Dartmouth game won by Army 6-0 typified his play. After recovering a fumble during the second half kickoff, Nolan made successive end runs to set up the ball in scoring position. In addition to his athletic skill, Nolan exhibited leadership abilities, rising to the rank of lieutenant in the Battalion Organization that comprised the entire Corps of Cadets. West Point also afforded Nolan the opportunity to serve alongside the next generation of Army leadership.

As the 19th century was coming to a close, economic, social, and political changes were redefining America's national interests. The graduates of the West Point class of 1896 would deploy to foreign battlefields and face 20th century technology. Perhaps no other generation of Army officers would have to bridge such a technological gulf during the course of their careers.

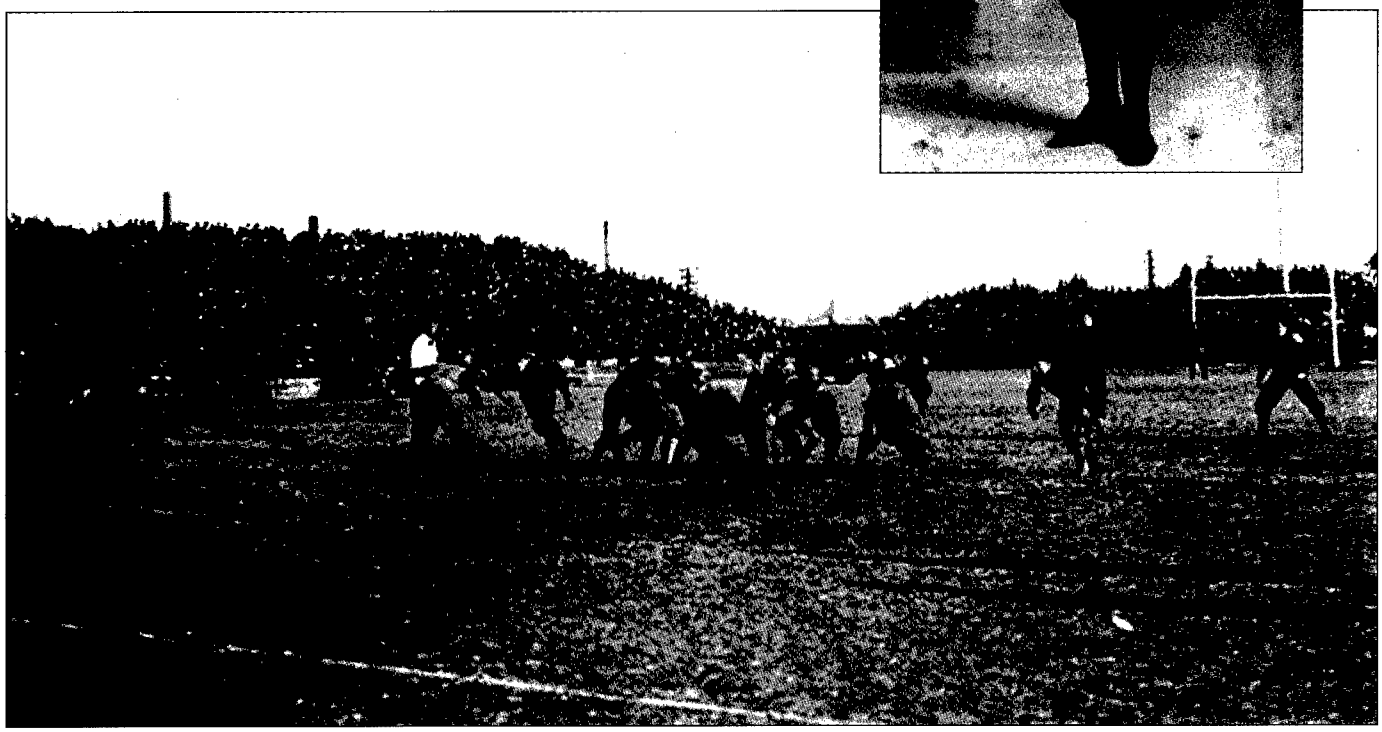


NOLAN FAMILY

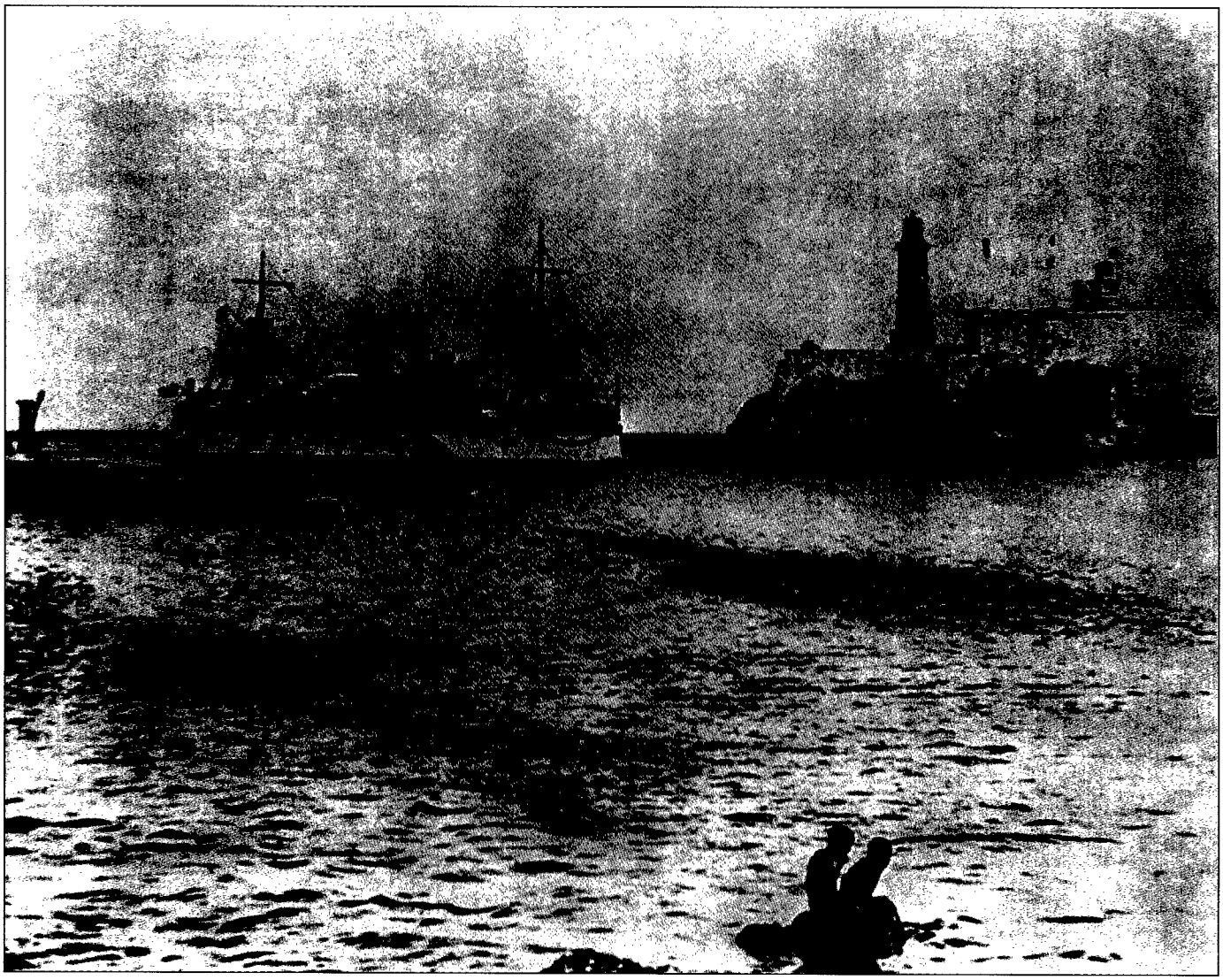
Nolan in his football uniform.

Since they played without helmets, members of the West Point football team were allowed to let their hair grow longer during football season as added protection for their heads.

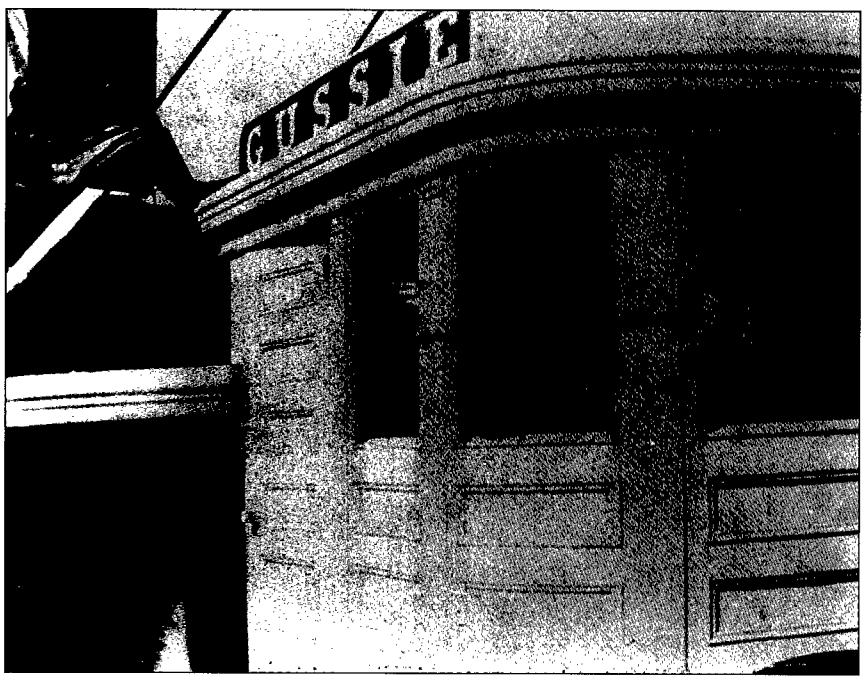
Nolan starred during the early days of college football. He was often compared to Yale's Frank Hinkey, college football's greatest end of the 1890's.



USMA



NARA



NARA

The calm before the storm. On January 25, 1898 the battleship USS Maine *arrives in Havana to keep the peace.*

The Gussie *transported the troops of the ill-planned initial expedition to Cuba.*

CHAPTER TWO:
THE BEGINNING OF A MILITARY CAREER

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

Upon graduation from the academy, 2LT Nolan was offered a choice between the cavalry and infantry branches; and he chose the latter. Nolan began his military career as a second lieutenant assigned to the 3d Infantry (The Old Guard) at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. The Army transferred him in August 1896 to the West Coast where he spent the next 2 years learning the daily routine of garrison life with the 1st Infantry Regiment at the Presidio of San Francisco. Second Lieutenant Nolan soon had the opportunity to apply his leadership skills when the Spanish-American War broke out.

In February 1895, the latest in a long series of revolts by Cuban nationals against Spanish control erupted. The conflict was injurious to U.S. investments on the island, but more important than economic interests was the appeal to American sentiment. Yellow journalism fanned the inherent American sympathy for a colonial people struggling for independence. Opportunity for a diplomatic solution was lost when the battleship USS *Maine* was sunk in February 1898 by a mysterious explosion while anchored in Havana harbor. The front page of the New York Journal proclaimed "285 American Sailors Sent to Their Death." It was widely believed the *Maine* had been sabotaged and that the Spanish were responsible. "Remember the *Maine*, to hell with Spain" became the rallying cry of the day. In response to public pressure, President William McKinley signed a war resolution on April 20, 1898.

THE ILL-FATED GUSSIE EXPEDITION

Through a Signal Corps wiretap of the Spanish cable, the U.S. discovered that a Spanish fleet of four armored cruisers and three destroyers had deployed to Santiago, Cuba. The 1st Infantry Regiment was ordered to Louisiana. 2LT Nolan had no sooner reached New Orleans than the regiment was ordered to proceed on to Tampa, Florida to become part of an assault on Cuba.

MG William R. Shafter, who had been placed in charge of the invasion force, decided to land a small force to deliver guns and ammunition to the Cubans. To increase the expedition's chances of success, the commanding officers selected seasoned troops. On 10 May, two companies from the 1st Infantry, each with 60 men, boarded the old side-wheeler *Gussie*, bound for a point 20 miles west of Havana. The expedition was a comical sight. The *Gussie*, painted a fire-engine red, was escorted by a revenue cutter and a gun boat. Following behind were two tugs rented by newspaper reporters to cover the action first hand. If Nolan had doubts about the mission, he was not alone. At least one officer was overheard to ask "What in Hades kind of lunatic asylum has gone adrift?"

As there was no censorship of the press at that time, newspapers reported the name of the vessel, its cargo, date of sailing, and designated landing sites. Being forewarned, the Spanish fired on the *Gussie* whenever it neared the Cuban coast. When they finally did land, 2LT Nolan and the men of the expedition engaged the Spanish troops. The men advanced in a skirmish line under heavy small arms fire. The fight was brief, however, and the men soon made their way back to the boat. The Cubans never did arrive, and the rifles were not delivered. Although the first land engagement of the war was a complete disaster, it was enough of an opportunity for 2LT Nolan to demonstrate his abilities as a leader in combat. For his gallantry, he would later receive the Silver Star. More importantly, his superiors saw him as one to whom greater responsibilities could be entrusted.

THE CUBAN CAMPAIGN

The U.S. hastily deployed MG Shafter's V Corps to Cuba, where he arrived on 20 June off

Santiago. A report received on 28 June that Santiago was to be reinforced by 8,000 Spanish troops, caused Shafter to decide he must attack the city before their arrival. The attack was planned for 1 July. American forces, including 2LT Dennis Nolan, now Acting Assistant Adjutant General of the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, were to clear the right flank of the advance by capturing El Caney and then envelop the north flank of the Spanish entrenchments on San Juan Heights and Kettle Hill. Other forces were to advance along the road to Santiago and deploy in front of San Juan Heights.

The heavily wooded countryside and poor roads made execution of the plan difficult. The attack on El Caney took several hours longer than had been expected. The Spaniards were well dug in and not inclined to surrender. The brigade was met with deadly fire from Spanish sharpshooters. It was not until the Spaniards began to run out of ammunition that the American artillery moved forward. American forces stormed the fort shortly after 4:00 p.m. For his part in the battle, Nolan received his second citation for gallantry under fire.

Likewise, the advance to San Juan Heights was slow and arduous. 1LT John J. Pershing of the 10th Cavalry wrote "The road ... follows, tortuous and narrow, along the river through the swampy jungle...." When his men arrived at the crossing of the San Juan River they encountered enemy fire. A Signal Corps observation balloon had become lodged in the treetops, and the Spanish, correctly supposing that American troops were moving along



NARA

Some officers of the expedition, including 2LT Dennis E. Nolan, front left.

the jungle road, had made a target of it. Under heavy enemy fire, the assault force forded the river and deployed directly in front of Fort San Juan Hill.

The capture of San Juan Hill after intensive fighting left the U.S. forces disorganized and shaken, and morale was low after 2 days of combat with little sleep or food. Confronted by disease, a critical supply problem, and the arrival of the hurricane season, some commanders urged a withdrawal, but MG Shafter decided to hold his ground and demand the city's surrender.

Although his initial demand for surrender was rejected, Shafter received unexpected help when the Spanish fleet was destroyed attempting to leave Santiago Harbor. Two weeks later Santiago surrendered. 2LT Nolan was present at the ceremony as Aide-de-Camp to General Chambers McKibben. The war was now over for all practical purposes. For his service in the Spanish-American War, he was promoted to First Lieutenant, Infantry, December 14, 1898.

In addition to his first combat experience, Nolan's service in Cuba brought him into contact with the public press. Besides his first exposure to newspapermen on the *Gussie* Expedition, Nolan had another experience with the press at the war's end. The correspondent from the New York Herald in Santiago insisted he had the right to be on top of Morro Castle when the Spanish flag was hauled down and the American flag raised. At the surrender ceremony, COL Miley, the Aide to MG Shafter,



NARA

Soldiers of the 10th Cavalry in Cuba.

objected to the correspondent's presence on the parapet and ordered him to leave. He refused and an altercation ensued. MG Shafter, on the ground below, hearing the argument, called up in a squeaky voice to Miley, "throw him off the building, Miley, throw him off the building." The correspondent hurried down and rushed up to the general, in the middle of the ceremony, and tried to apologize. When MG Shafter, impatient at the interruption, brusquely waved him aside, the correspondent struck the general. He was immediately placed under arrest, and Nolan was ordered to ship him out of the country. Since no transport was sailing that day, Nolan turned him over to a colonel to await departure. Nolan obtained a receipt that read "received from Lieutenant D.E. Nolan, A.D.C., one newspaper correspondent named Scoville." Later in his career Nolan would develop a close and unique working relationship with newspaper correspondents.

THE PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGN

Following his return to the U.S. at the close of the Spanish-American War, First Lieutenant Nolan was assigned to the 13th Infantry Regiment at Camp Meade, Maryland and Fort McKenzie, Georgia. Within the year, he would be ordered to the Philippines. Under the terms of the peace treaty, signed in Paris on December 10, 1898, Spain relinquished Cuba and ceded Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines to the U.S., even though Filipinos had already declared their independence from Spain. The turnover of the Philippines to the U.S. incited hostilities between Filipino patriots and U.S.



NARA

Raising the American flag on Morro Castle, the Santiago City Hall.

troops. Philippine forces led by Emilio Aguinaldo revolted against U.S. rule, beginning the Philippine Insurrection. Few at the time could have foreseen the events which followed. Defeated at attempts to win independence by conventional warfare, the nationalists turned to guerrilla warfare. For U.S. forces the new conflict would not only be fought on different terms than the Spanish-American War, but would prove longer and more difficult.

Upon discovering that it was to be a long drawn-out campaign against Aguinaldo and the insurgents, the Army organized a volunteer force with a 2-year enlistment exclusively for service in the Philippines. The U.S. Volunteers, commanded by regular and state officers who had distinguished themselves in the last war, were divided into 25 infantry and one cavalry regiment. When 1LT Nolan arrived in Manila in August 1899, he was temporarily promoted to Major and assigned the command of one of the squadrons of the 11th U.S. Volunteer Cavalry. It was during this service that he first came to the attention of future general officers, John J. Pershing and James G. Harbord.

Two brigades were formed: one of them placed under the command of Brigadier General Theodore Schwann and called "Schwann's Expeditionary Brigade." Among the units assigned to BG Schwann was the 11th Volunteer Cavalry. The plan called for Schwann's brigade to establish a line running from Binan, which was located on the west shore of Laguna de Bay, across Cavite Province to Naic, on the west coast of the island of Luzon.



NARA

BG Schwann and staff in front of the Governor's Palace at Batangas, in the Philippines, on the day of its capture, January 17, 1900.

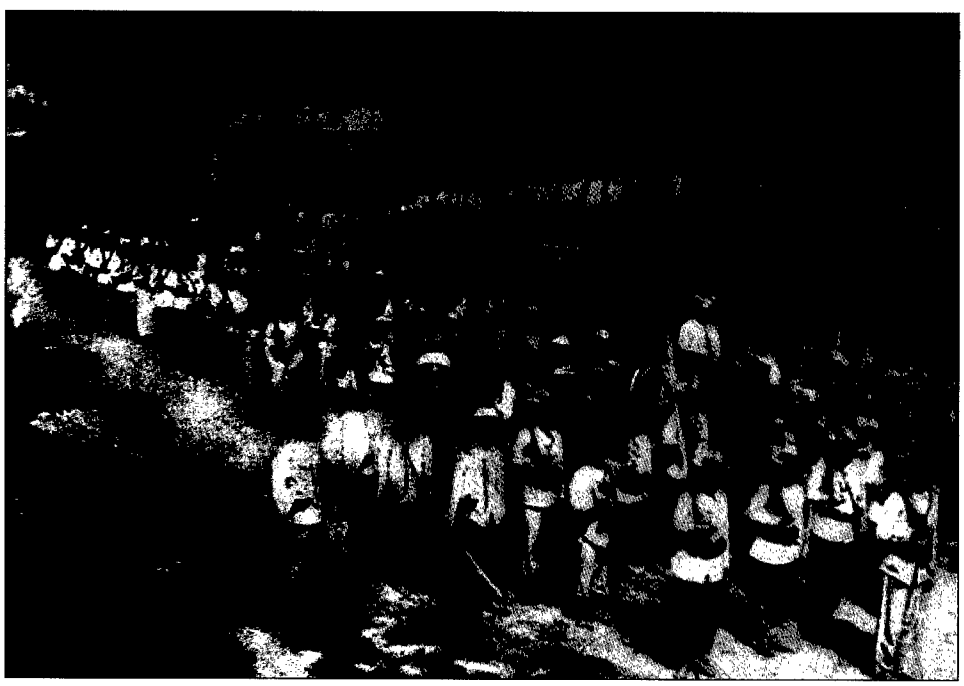
The other brigade would attack south against the insurgents and drive them into the waiting arms of BG Schwann's troops.

On January 7, 1900, three days out of Binan, Schwann's force with his cavalry in front was closing on Silang, approximately half way to Naic, when the general learned the brigade heading south had prematurely engaged the enemy. Concerned that the fleeing insurgents would slip the trap before it was set, he sent his two squadrons of cavalry dashing ahead to reach Naic as soon as possible. Although faced with rugged terrain, Nolan's men were able to successfully engage the insurgents and keep pressure on the enemy fleeing from Binan. Acting independently, Nolan's troops engaged 200 of the insurgents eight miles west of Silang on the evening of the 7th. Upon reaching Indang, the next town on the westerly route, the cavalry captured 62 rifles, 4,000 rounds of ammunition, $7,000 in insurgent funds, and found a well-equipped insurgent hospital occupied by many sick and wounded enemy soldiers. With a final push to Naic, the cavalry arrived in time to complete the net and confront the main body of the enemy fleeing south.

After pacifying Cavite Province, BG Schwann's brigade swung south and did much the same for the principal towns of Batangas Province. On a followup campaign to control the nearby Tayabas Province, Nolan led an important reconnaissance of the planned route and returned with the news that the road was impassable. Following Nolan's recommendation, U.S. forces changed direction. This maneuver caused insurgent forces to panic and flee Tayabas Province, believing the Americans were to their rear. In recognition of Nolan's contributions to the campaign's success, BG Schwann wrote "Major Nolan has proved himself to be an officer of dash, enterprise, and withall excellent judgement, and although quite young in the service, has established a record for himself of which he may well be proud."

Taking a respite from the fighting, Nolan was reassigned for temporary duty as the Acting Inspector General, Headquarters Division of the Philippines. In February 1901, he was appointed the Acting Adjutant General, First District, Department of Northern Luzon. While stationed at Vigan, which was situated on the South China Sea approximately 200 miles north of Manila, Nolan continued to master the administrative skills that would be required in later years.

The capture of Aguinaldo in March 1901 virtually ended the insurrection. On July 4, 1902 President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed the Filipino-American War officially ended. With footholds in the Caribbean and the Far East assuring access to foreign markets, the U.S. was preparing to play a determining role in the affairs of Europe. Now recently promoted to the permanent rank of captain in the Regular Army, Nolan boarded a steamer for the United States and a new assignment.



NARA

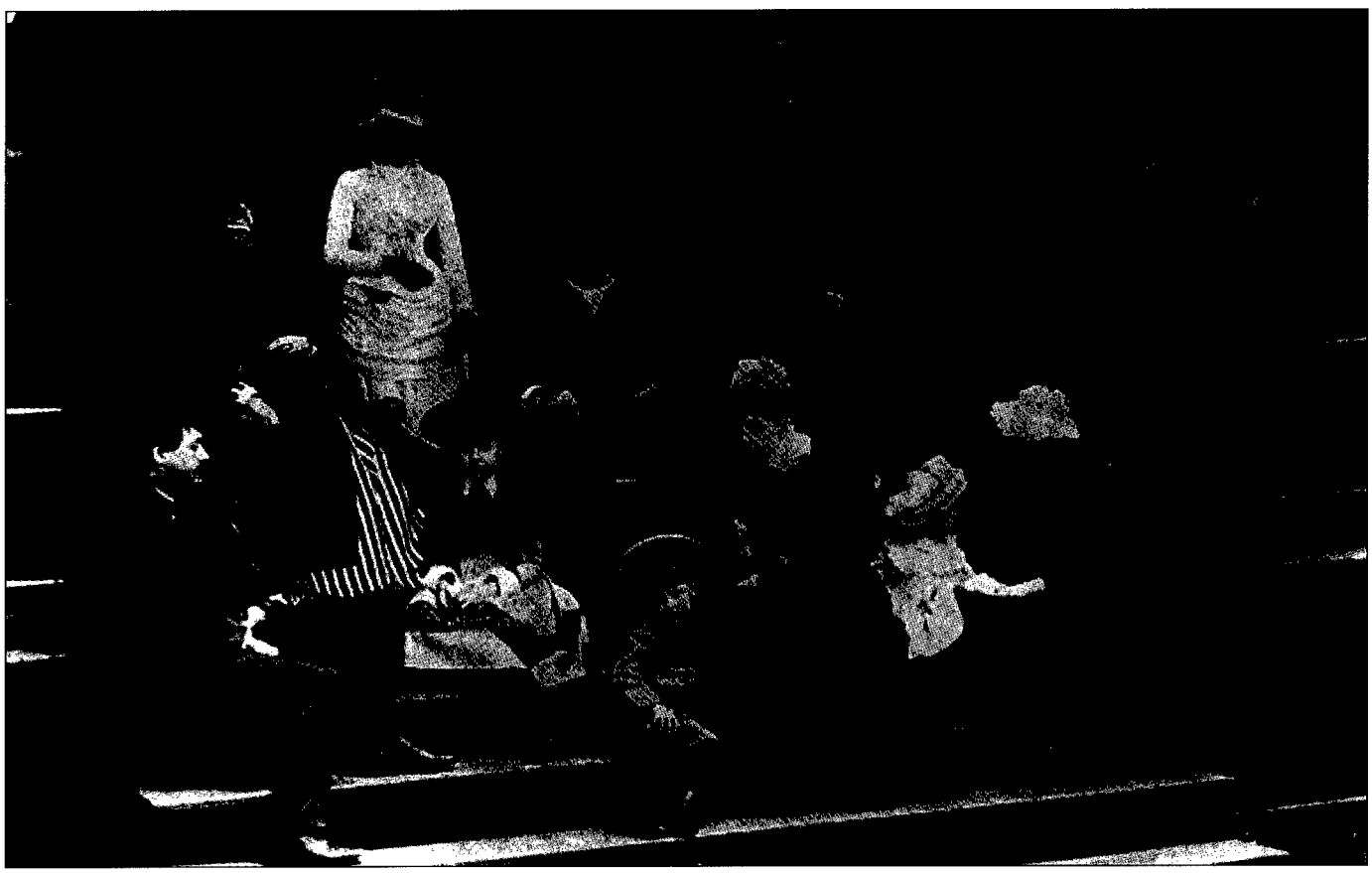
Battalion of Filipino insurgents.

CHAPTER THREE:
LIFE AS A STAFF OFFICER

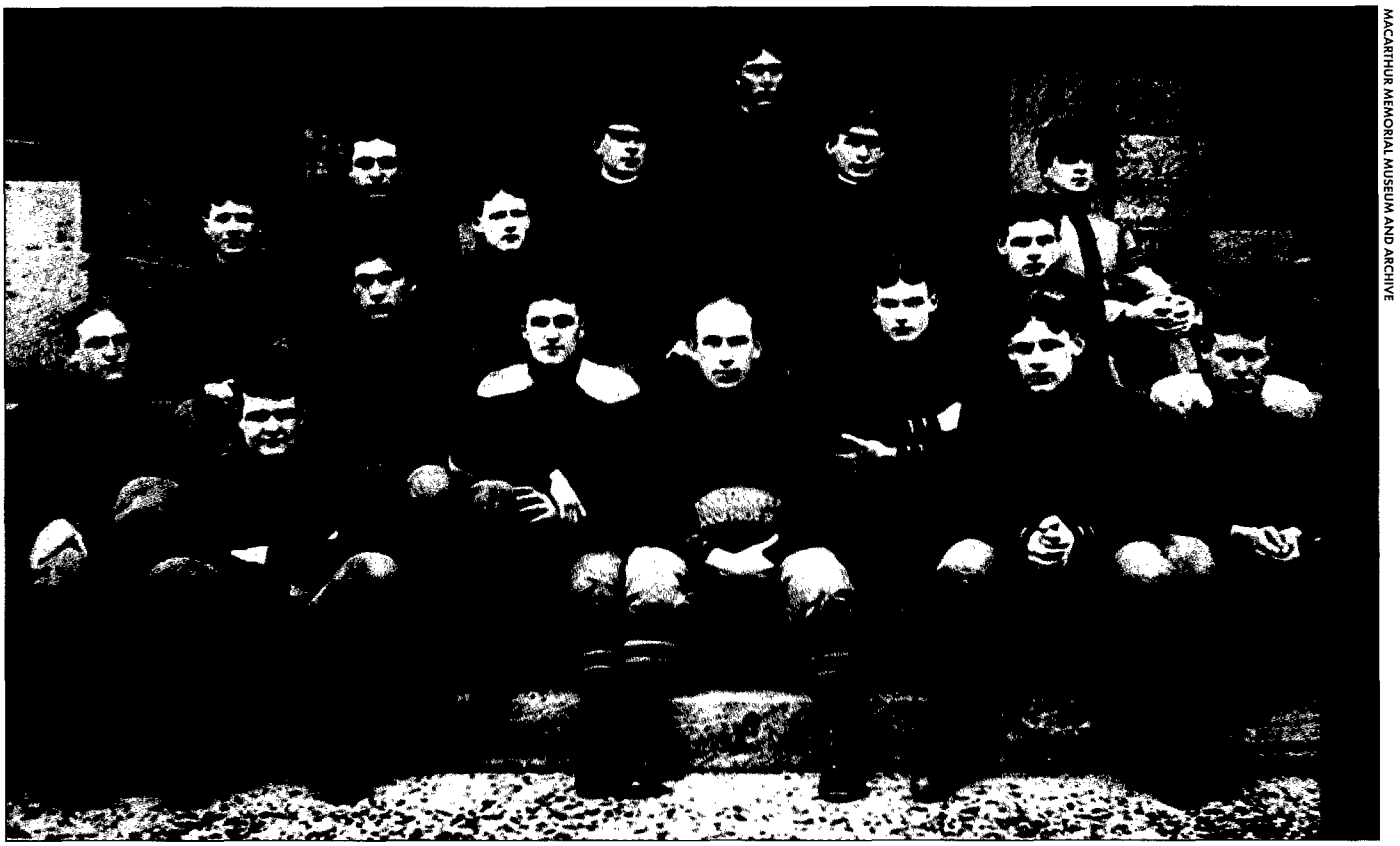
RETURN FROM THE PHILIPPINES

CPT Nolan returned from the Philippines in the summer of 1901 and traveled immediately to San Francisco. Upon his arrival at the Presidio, Dennis sought out Julia Dent Sharp, who was a guest at the quarters of her brother-in-law, MAJ James Pettit, and her sister Bessie. Named after her aunt, former First Lady Julia Dent Grant, Julia was called "Lady" by her family and friends. When and how Dennis and Lady met is uncertain. They may have been introduced while he was stationed in San Francisco with the 1st Infantry. Military families commonly married within the military circle. Lady's father, MAJ Alexander Sharp, a brother, and a brother-in-law were all three Army officers; another brother served with the Navy.

After a whirlwind courtship, Dennis and Lady exchanged vows in a simple Catholic ceremony on August 11, 1901. Immediately after the wedding, the newlyweds boarded an east-bound train for West Point, New York, where CPT Nolan was appointed as an instructor at the Academy. The 2-year tour at West Point was a happy one for the young couple. Lady became known for her personal graciousness and pleasant manner. Having been brought up in a military family, she understood the social demands placed upon a career officer and was prepared for her role. Lady also had the benefit of a good education at successive private schools run by the Sisters of Charity. Within the close-knit military society, a wife's deportment could enhance her husband's reputation. Aside from social obligations, Lady

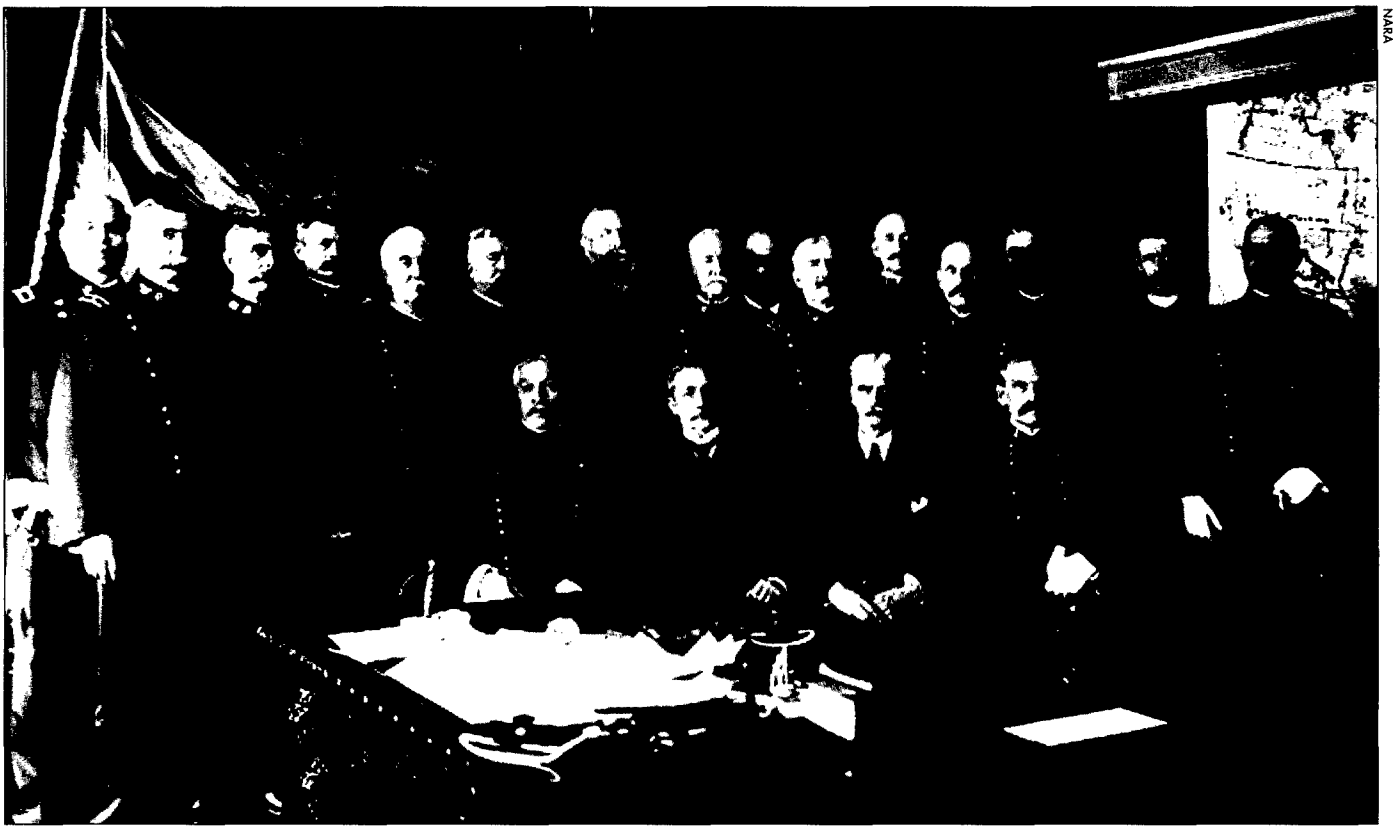


President Ulysses S. Grant with his wife, Julia Dent Grant, and family members.



MACARTHUR MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVE

The 1902 Military Academy football team. Douglas MacArthur, team manager, is seated on Nolan's left. Nolan's 2 years as coach were the first years that any cadet earned the title All American.



NARA

Secretary of War Elihu Root, seated second from left, meets with the Army's brand new General Staff in 1903.

controlled the daily household routine, exhibiting a self-assurance and competence that was a constant source of encouragement to her husband.

The return to West Point was a homecoming of sorts for Dennis. He was pleased to have the opportunity to teach law and history. Among his pupils was Cadet Douglas MacArthur, future Medal of Honor recipient and five-star General of the Army. West Point also meant a return to Army football. CPT Nolan served as the assistant coach for the 1901 football team, and in 1902, as the head coach. Both years, the team handily beat Navy before large crowds in Philadelphia. The team would have had an undefeated season in 1902 except for a narrow loss to Harvard.

In October 1902, Lady gave birth to a son, Dennis Edward Nolan, Junior. The following summer, the young family left for Washington, D.C. and Dennis's new assignment.

For Lady, the move to Washington was a return to a place of her early childhood and the first real opportunity to be reunited with members of her family since her marriage.

Bessie and her children were there, as MAJ James Pettit was now on duty at the War Department. Lady's brother, Alexander Sharp, Jr., had just taken command of the USS *Chattanooga*, and his wife Josie was in Washington to be close to their son attending the nearby Naval Academy. With the many visitors it was a busy time for the Nolan household, but Dennis and Lady both enjoyed entertaining.

THE GENERAL STAFF

CPT Nolan was one of the few captains selected for service with the Army's first General Staff, created by Secretary of War Elihu Root in 1903. Previously, command within the War Department had been divided between the Commanding General, who exercised control over military operations, and the Secretary of War, who controlled resources by overseeing a number of bureaus, such as the Adjutant General's Department and the Quartermaster's Department. During the Spanish-American War the absence of any planning and preparation, the lack of coordination among the


USMA

Captain Nolan (July 10, 1912).

bureaus, and the delay caused by red tape in providing essential supplies and logistics to the Army in the field had become a public scandal. Secretary Root told Congress that unless drastic changes were made in War Department organization and administration, the department would be unable to operate effectively in any war. Secretary Root maintained that a modern army required intelligent planning for possible future military operations and effective executive control over current ones.

Acting upon Secretary Root's recommendations, Congress replaced the Commanding General with a Chief of Staff, assisted by a General Staff.

The next 3 years in Washington, D.C. provided Dennis with invaluable experience that would ultimately determine the course of his career. Being one of only a handful of captains assigned to the newly organized General Staff, Nolan was privileged to learn staff work from the ground up while serving within the newly created Division of Military Information. Undoubtedly, Nolan's most valuable contact during this time was with a senior captain by the

name of John J. Pershing. They had much in common, and soon the two were on a first-name basis.

Their early careers mirrored one another's in many ways. Both had taught school prior to attending West Point, fought in Cuba and the Philippines, and served as instructors at the Academy.

During the summer of 1906, CPT Nolan joined a delegation traveling to France to observe army maneuvers. Not only did Nolan gain valuable knowledge concerning the organizational structure of the French military, but he met a number of its officers who were destined for high-level leadership roles. Looking over the battlefields, however, Nolan never imagined he would return to Europe as part of an expeditionary force allied to the French army.

He recalled the time in his memoirs: "I little dreamed as I accompanied our American mission over these battlefields that only twelve years later American boys would be fighting along the Marne and the Meuse and that I would meet again, as allies, the young staff officers who were detailed to our party."



NARA

BG John J. Pershing.

SECOND TOUR IN THE PHILIPPINES

The years from 1907 to 1911 again found CPT Nolan in the Philippines. He was initially assigned as Acting Adjutant General to the newly promoted BG John J. Pershing, stationed at Fort William McKinley. Although Pershing was acknowledged to be a brilliant tactician, his promotion over 800 senior officers raised many eyebrows within the ranks and caused talk that his meteoric rise in rank owed as much to patronage as to personal skill. Pershing welcomed Nolan's arrival for several reasons. The general needed loyal subordinates to ensure success in his first assignment. Fort McKinley had been selected as a brigade post where the Army would concentrate a large mobile field force. The combined infantry, cavalry, and artillery elements at Fort McKinley would be of sufficient size to deal with any adversary on the island. Pershing was determined to whip the troops into shape through maneuvers, discipline, and conditioning (to include sports activities) and provide them added skills through classroom instruction during the rainy season. Nolan was eminently well qualified to provide the necessary leadership to carry out Pershing's plans.

It is uncertain whether Lady and Dennis Jr. accompanied the captain on his voyage to the Philippines, but the family was together at Fort McKinley. Lady again had the opportunity to employ her social skills. The post was a showcase of the American occupation and every important visitor to Manila would come to see and be seen. The Nolans attended many of the social events hosted by General and Mrs. Pershing. Lady's knowledge of the complicated etiquette of Army society that followed rigid rules of rank was an important asset since Fort McKinley was home to multiple regiments and their commanding officers—and ladies. With her winning personality, tact and savvy, Lady provided Dennis needed support and shared his experiences as he honed the skills required to assume greater leadership responsibility. Nolan spent the remainder of his tour in the Philippines with the civil government in the positions of Inspector for the Philippine Constabulary and Director of the District of Southern Luzon.

RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

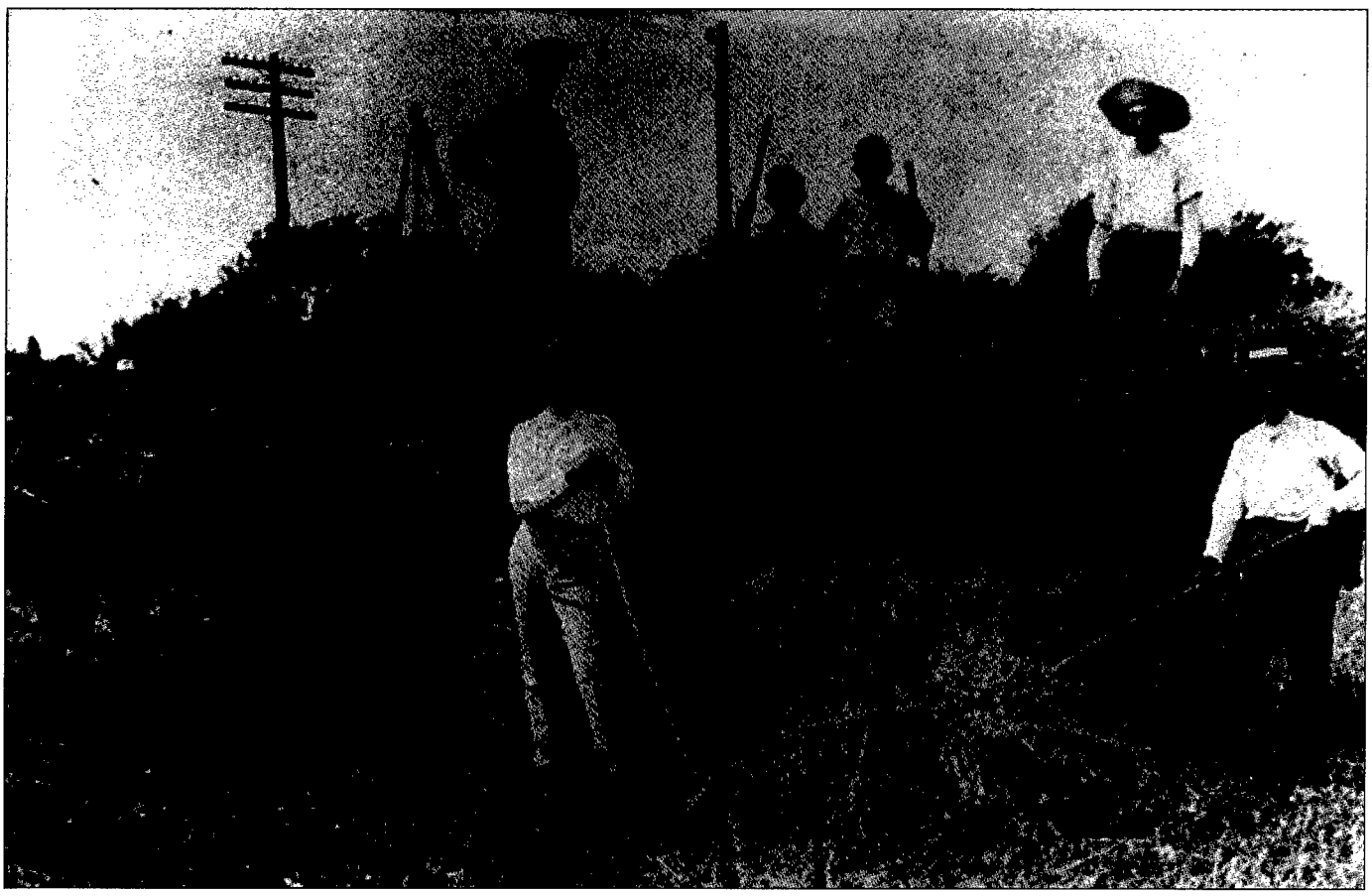
After 4 years abroad, the family was anxious to be back in the United States. When they arrived in July 1911, Dennis and Lady, with Dennis Junior, headed straight for New York. Since he had been gone, his father had died and Dennis desired to spend time with his mother and sisters, and his brother Martin, recently graduated from medical school. Lady was expecting their second child and it was important that she be where she could receive proper medical attention and assistance with the children after the baby was born. At 38 years old, Lady was not a young woman; a concern that may have been on Dennis's mind. On October 3rd, Lady gave birth at a hospital in Buffalo, N.Y., to a girl, Ellen Honora, named after both of her grandmothers. There was hardly time to establish the routine of caring for a new baby (the reality of an Army wife did not incline to routine) before Dennis was due to report for his new assignment. During her first 10 years of marriage, Lady had already experienced moving her household four times, including cross-country and overseas.



NOLAN FAMILY

Daughter Ellen Honora Nolan, about 14 months old, at Fort Seward.

Photo shows the three Nolan brothers: Dennis and Daniel, on the ground, and Martin, standing on rear of wagon. The small boy is Dennis Nolan, Jr.



NOLAN FAMILY

Captain Nolan's next assignment took them back to California, where he was to serve as Adjutant for the 30th Infantry Regiment. Through the years, Dennis and lady had come to look upon the Presidio of San Francisco as their adopted home. They had met, courted, and married there. No doubt Dennis and Lady looked forward to a good assignment. Dennis had served as Adjutant before; the family could enjoy their new daughter and their growing son. Then tragedy struck.

In February 1912, just three months after the family arrived in California, Dennis Junior, who had just turned 10, fell ill and died. The Nolans buried their son at the Presidio cemetery near the graves of Lady's mother and father. To Lady it must have been a compounding of grief as she remembered back to the time her younger brother had died of scarlet fever. For Dennis, it was a loss of his pride and joy. The following years surely tested Dennis and Lady's inner strength as much as any. Career-wise, Dennis was now a senior captain with over 10 years in grade and nearly 20 in service. They had been in California for just a year when Dennis was ordered to Alaska to serve with the elements of the 30th Infantry based at Fort Seward.

Fort Seward was ensconced at the upper end of the Inside Passage where it could observe the pack-toting traffic over three historic trails, the Chikot, Chilcat, and White Passes. Travel was either by mule-drawn wagons, dog sleds, or skis, depending upon the season. Established as a frontier outpost in 1903, the fort had become the Army's showplace in Alaska. The post consisted of over 4,000 acres of spruce forest, and the facilities included officers' houses, two large barracks, a post exchange, ice house, warehouse, stables, and telegraph office. At full strength, the garrison could sustain approximately 400 enlisted men and 15 officers.

For Lady, her new home was surprisingly pleasant. The fort's proximity to Haines and modern amenities had eliminated much of the hardship of frontier life faced by Army wives less than a decade before. The Nolans resided in one of the duplex officer quarters, which were quite modern.



SM&CC

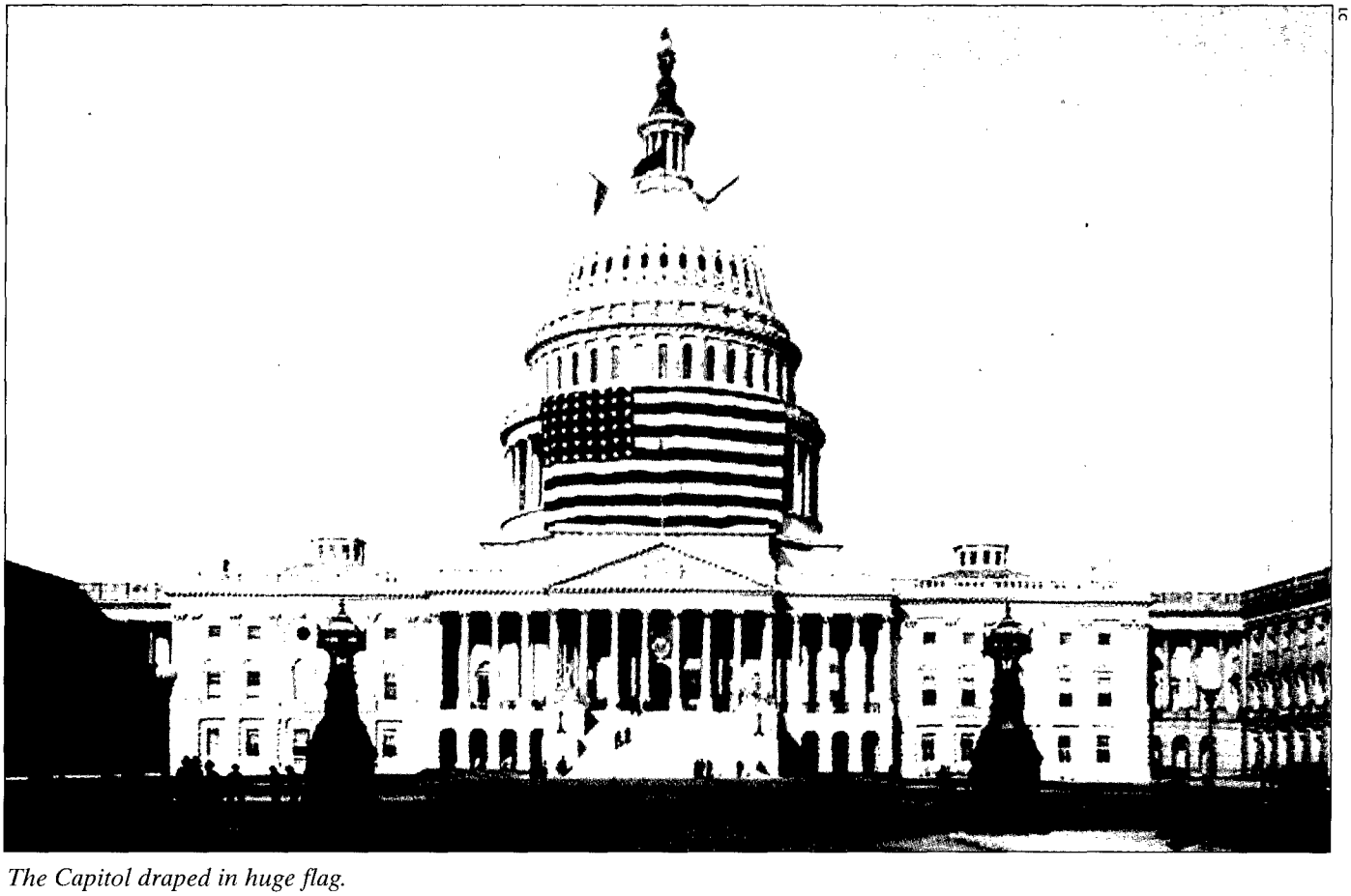
The 30th Infantry Regiment at Fort Seward.

The houses had indoor flush toilets, 6-foot claw-footed bathtubs, and marble-topped wash stands. Although there was no electricity, decorative kerosene lamps comfortably lighted the rooms. Coal or wood-fire boilers provided steam to cast iron radiators in every room, and each room had a fireplace. Enlisted men maintained the coal-burning stoves in the living and dining rooms. Life at Fort Seward was relatively relaxed, but dealing with the ennui of an outpost was a continuing challenge for both the men and women. The men underwent the usual drills, calisthenics, instructions, and soldiery duties, which still left plenty of time for fishing and hunting. The presence of women helped dispel the boredom. They planned social activities such as picnics, musicales, and dances that brought the people of the town together with the residents of the fort.

For CPT Nolan, the Fort Seward assignment would prove to be the calm before the storm. In late June, 1914, Dennis and the rest of the world learned of the assassination of the heir to the Hapsburg throne, Archduke Franz Ferdinand in faraway Europe. Less than two months later all the European powers were at war. Most Americans believed the ocean barrier would continue to preserve the United States from entanglement in European conflicts. CPT Nolan's instincts may have told him otherwise, especially when he was redetailed to the General Staff. In the spring of 1915, CPT Nolan and his family journeyed from Alaska back to the nation's capital. They were quartered at Washington Barracks while Dennis was assigned to the War College Division of the General Staff.

PREPARING FOR WAR

When war broke out on the European continent, the U.S. had a regular Army, which consisted of only 5,000 officers and 105,000 enlisted men. Nearly 42,000 soldiers were stationed overseas. A National Guard force totalling 127,000 served as a backup. Of the Guard, Nolan made the following evaluation: "some of the National Guard was excellent, some only fair, and a great deal pretty bad." Concerning the state of the Army leadership, he



The Capitol draped in huge flag.

wrote, "Our senior commanders were officers of combat experiences in the Indian Wars, the War with Spain, and the Philippine Insurrection, but knew war on the grand scale only as students." Although the U.S. entered the 20th century as a major power, this was not reflected in the size or readiness of its army and navy.

Shortly after Nolan arrived at the War College Division, the Secretary of War, Lindley M. Garrison, tasked the division to update the Army's mobilization plan. The thinking within the General Staff was that it was essential for the Army to possess a force sufficient to repel an invading force. The threat estimate was assigned to CPT Nolan. Using exaggerated figures to represent Germany's military capability, Nolan portrayed the possibility of a large armada descending on America with lightning speed and landing huge masses of troops on the East Coast. Although unrealistic, the perceived threat served to justify the War Department's plans. One reason Nolan was able to exaggerate the numbers of men, animals, equipment, and timeline was that the War Department possessed no threat analysis or even viable intelligence summaries to draw upon.

In his annual message for 1915, President Woodrow Wilson called for continued neutrality, but a number of private organizations and prominent individuals, including Theodore Roosevelt, MG Leonard Wood, Henry L. Stimson, and Elihu Root, advocated strengthening the national defense. They campaigned for preparedness for America and intervention in the war and worked to enlist popular support for a stronger Army. The preparedness movement proposed universal military service.

Nolan prepared a memorandum for the Chief of Staff, Major General Hugh L. Scott, advocating a draft. Nolan's immediate superior, MG Tasker H. Bliss, would not commit himself on the subject, and Nolan knew the general would not forward his memorandum to the Chief of Staff. Convinced that the Chief of Staff ought to read the memorandum, Nolan decided to take the risk of sending it directly to MG Scott. Hand carrying the document to Major William S. Graves, who served as secretary to the General Staff, Nolan urged him to pass it on to the Chief of Staff. Graves assured him the general would see the memo that same morning. That afternoon, an anxious captain learned the memorandum was well received. General Scott admitted "nothing has been worrying me more for two or three months than this question of being caught with no plan or policy on the subject of compulsory service in case we are forced into the war." General Scott told Nolan, "I approve of everything you say in your memorandum, and I want you to send it at once to the War College. Furthermore, I am going to delegate you as my personal representative in charge of following up on conscription. Keep me informed as to what they are doing at the War College about it, otherwise I am afraid it won't be done."

Subsequently, General Scott raised the issue with the new Secretary of War, Newton Baker. Initially opposed to any policy of conscription, Baker would reverse his position and instruct the Judge Advocate General's Office to prepare the Selective Service Act (Draft Act). CPT Nolan was placed in charge of preparing the case for universal service. Working directly under General Scott, Nolan prepared the proposal for presentation to the House and Senate.

The preparedness movement notwithstanding, main street America continued to place its trust in neutrality. President Wilson had staunchly advocated neutrality, and American sentiment had remained strongly pacifist; then on 1 February 1917, Germany resumed its policy of unrestricted submarine warfare. After the sinking of the USS *Housatonic* without warning, Wilson was compelled to sever diplomatic relations with Germany. On April 2, President Wilson sent a message to Congress condemning the German submarine policy as "warfare against mankind" and called for the U.S. to join the fight, declaring "The world must be made safe for democracy." At the same time, he called for Congress to pass the Selective Service Act. Four days later, Congress responded with the passage of a war resolution. Unfortunately, the Selective Service Act did not become law until May 18, and it was not until September that drafted men began to report for duty.

CHAPTER FOUR:
CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE SERVICES

THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE GENERAL STAFF

President Wilson placed Brigadier General John J. Pershing in command of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF). Pershing was commanding the Mexican Punitive Expedition when he received his new orders. Soon after his arrival in Washington, D.C., he began organizing his staff. For his Chief of Staff Pershing selected Major James G. Harbord. Only two officers from the War Department General Staff were to be released to accompany the expedition. Although Nolan knew both Pershing and Harbord well from having served under them in the Philippines, he did not expect to be selected. Unlike numerous others who were actively lobbying for a leadership role, Nolan refrained from calling on either General Pershing or Major Harbord, believing them both too busy to be interrupted by callers. His patience was rewarded. Nolan described being summoned by Major Harbord:

> "Several days after Major Harbord had established his office in the State, War, and Navy Building he called me on the telephone and invited me to come to his house that night for dinner, specifying that he preferred I come after dark



NARA

The General Staff at Headquarters, Chaumont. Nolan is in the second row/second from right.

in order that no one might know of my visit. When I arrived he informed me I had been selected to head the Intelligence Section of the General Staff and that I would report to him in the morning for duty in organizing my part of the expedition." It was an occasion Nolan would always treasure: "I was surprised and delighted to go with Harbord as Chief of Staff for I had served with him and under him for four years in the Philippine Constabulary.... It was my opinion then as it is now that General Pershing could not have made a better selection for his first Chief of Staff than Harbord. I told Major Harbord so that night as we drank to the health of the American Expeditionary Force."

General Pershing did not hesitate to approve CPT Dennis Nolan's selection as head of the intelligence section of the AEF General Staff. Pershing had first noticed Nolan when they were fellow members of the original War Department General Staff. During his first command at Ft. William McKinley, Pershing had welcomed Nolan's assignment as Adjutant General. After leaving Ft. McKinley for the post of Inspector of the Philippine Constabulary, Nolan had maintained frequent contact with the general. Pershing also undoubtedly knew of Nolan's tactful and skillful assistance to members of the War College and Congress in the preparation of the draft law. Nolan clearly possessed the administrative, organizational, and leadership skills needed to undertake the greatest expedition in American history.

G2 OF THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

After only 2 years in Washington, Dennis prepared to leave Lady and 5-year-old Ellen to become



NARA

General Pershing's first headquarters in France at No. 31 Rue Constantine.

the Chief of the Intelligence Services of the American Expeditionary Force, a position he held throughout the war. On 27 May 1917, Nolan, now a major, sailed with GEN Pershing on the SS *Baltic* for France. The *Baltic* put into port at Liverpool on the 8th of June. The American officers went immediately to London for orientation with the British War Office. Next they traveled to Paris, where Pershing established his first headquarters at No. 31 Rue Constantine, a private house. As a headquarters, the house was uncomfortable and crowded. Nolan shared a one-room office with other members of the intelligence section—two officers and two clerks.

Nolan initially observed both the French and British Intelligence Services for the purpose of organizing and administering American combat intelligence. While visiting French General Headquarters, Nolan received permission to visit the French Third Army. Impressed with what he saw, Nolan concluded the Third Army had the best combat intelligence organization of any of the French Armies. The French provided Nolan with sets of instructions governing intelligence operations preceding and during a battle. While at the Third Army, Nolan also had the opportunity to witness an interrogation of two German prisoners and took particular note of the type of questions asked. At the conclusion of the visit, he requested, and was granted, permission to inspect the intelligence section of a corps, a division, and a regiment.

All the intelligence work he saw while visiting the French was being conducted during a relatively quiet period in their sector; curious as to how intelligence work fared during active combat operations, Nolan sought to visit the British Armies in the field. As a result, he was invited to witness the operation of the British intelligence system during the third battle of Ypres. His hosts provided him an advance

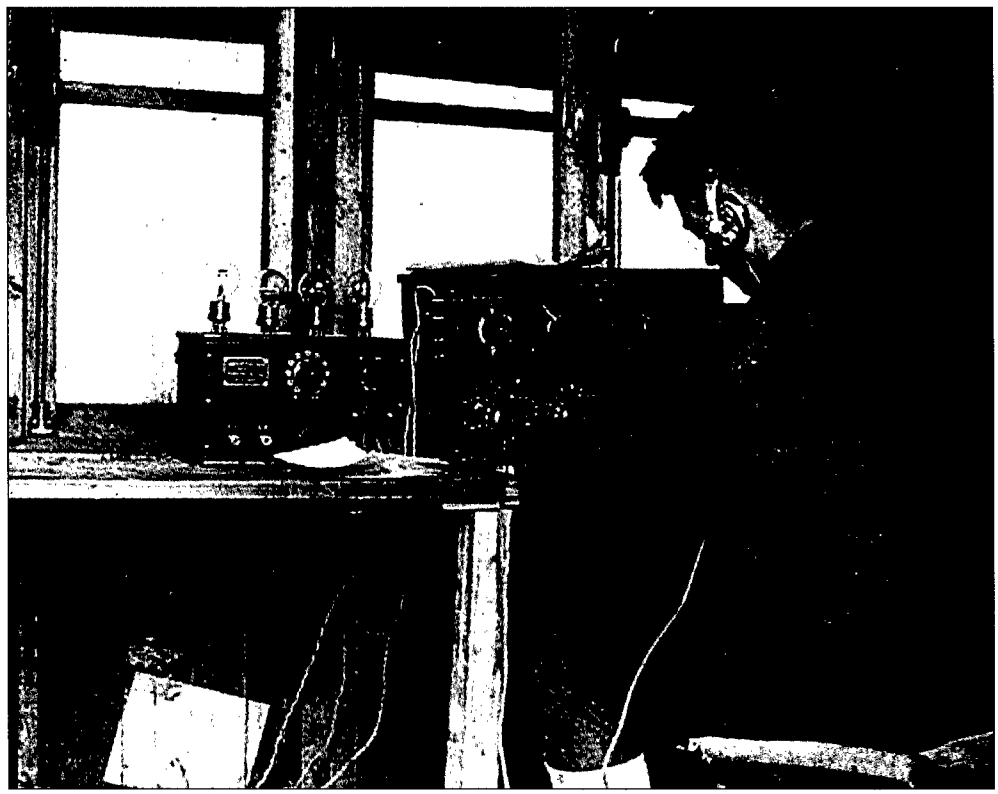


NARA

Americans in trenches during the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Communications intelligence.

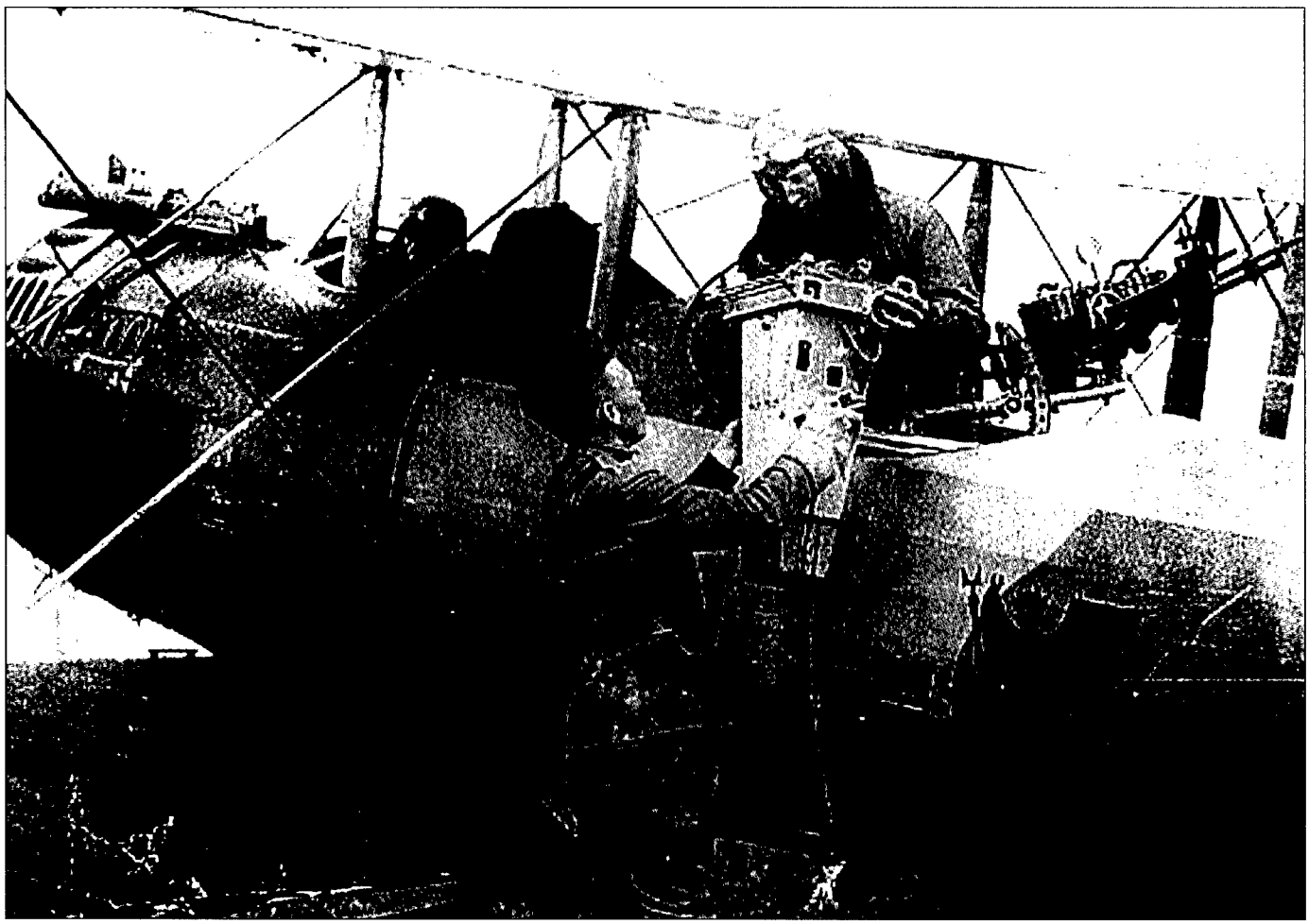
The Signal Corps intercepted enemy communications and also monitored AEF radio and telephone communications.



NARA

The early years of photo intelligence.

Aerial reconnaissance came into its own during WWI with the airplane's increased capabilities. The airplane could gather information over enemy-held territory through both visual and photographic means.



NARA

copy of the intelligence regulations, which he studied before joining the British at their General Headquarters. His visit to the front left Nolan enthusiastic about the efficient way in which the British Intelligence Service was operating, and he returned ready to make his recommendation to GEN Pershing concerning the organization of the American intelligence system.

Drawing from the best of both the French and British intelligence services, Nolan drafted a set of intelligence regulations applicable to the AEF organization. Nolan built the Army's intelligence service from the ground up, creating a multidiscipline intelligence organization on a scale never before seen in the U.S. Army. Following the British division of duties in their intelligence section, the regulations provided for the grouping of AEF intelligence into four principal divisions: The Information Division (G-2-A); the Secret Service Division, (G-2-B); the Topographical Division (G-2-C); and the Censorship and Press Division, (G-2-D).

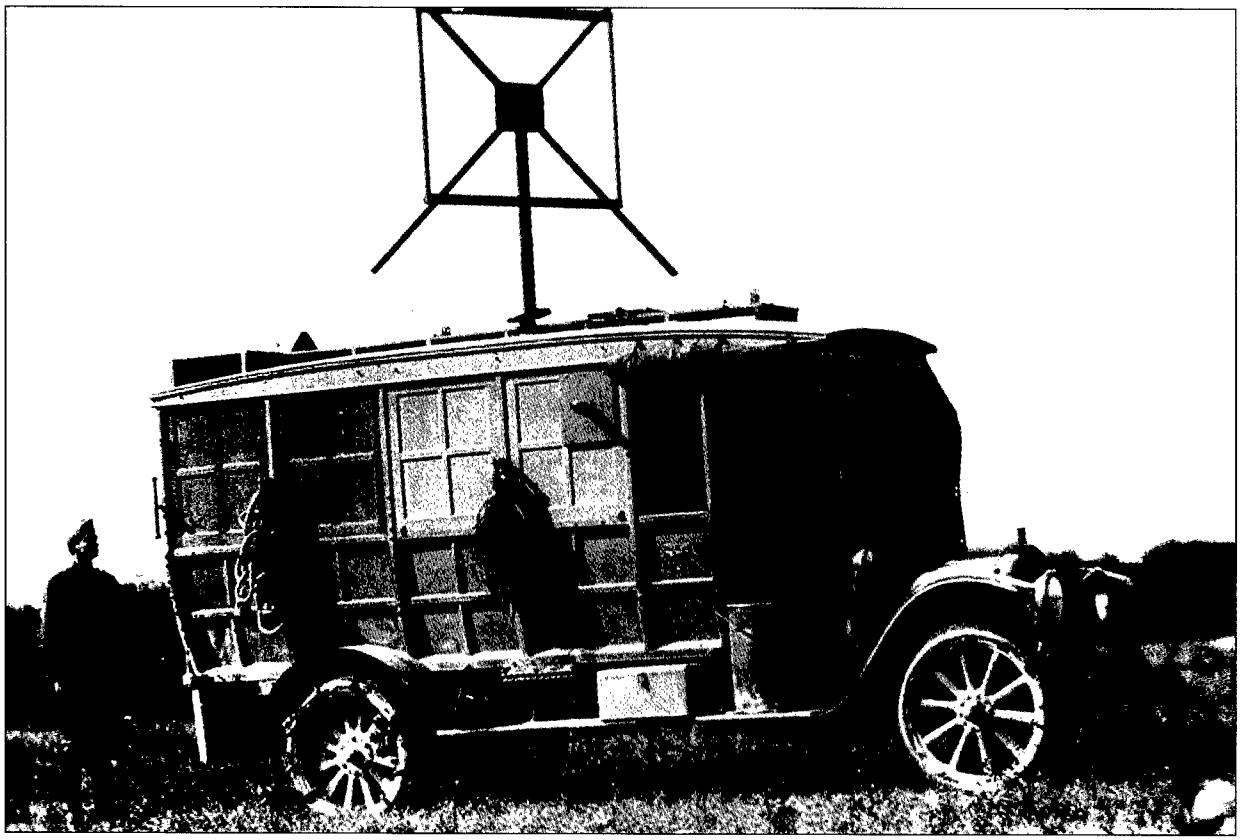
As was his habit with all policies and regulations of all departments, GEN Pershing studied Nolan's intelligence regulations before approving them. Nolan thought highly of Pershing, describing him as a leader who embodied "the spirit of a great Commander." He credited the general's review of regulations before they were issued as contributing to success in all branches of the AEF: "In every case, the general made himself thoroughly familiar with the reasons for each regulation and frequently changed the original proposals. However, when he had once approved the orders or regulations there was very little change made in them for the rest of the war. In this way the normal development of a great army was encouraged and not hampered by frequent changes in adopted policies. This was of the greatest importance in our growing army, because there are so many minds both in peace and in war who confuse change with progress."

World War I, for the first time, saw American military intelligence employing many of the basic intelligence disciplines still being used today: aerial reconnaissance, radio intelligence, interrogation teams, and counterintelligence agents. Modern technologies had changed the nature of the battlefield and the combat commanders' intelligence requirements. In trench warfare, the problem was not to find the enemy, but to study the detail of the enemy's entrenchments, to spot for artillery fire, and to locate and bombard the rear area preparations for an offensive. The lack of movement, together with anxiety that the enemy was developing new tactics to break the deadlock, forced commanders to conduct reconnaissance deep into the enemy's rear area.

The new intelligence collection technologies introduced into World War I, which had never been used extensively in previous wars, were the airplane and radio. By the end of 1914, both sides on the Western front came to accept the airplane as the prime source of intelligence about the enemy. Aerial reconnaissance and photographic intelligence (PHOTINT) furnished valuable information, such as indications the enemy was planning an offensive. Aerial photographs detected new ammunition dumps and new extension of roads and railroads, which were used for transporting ammunition and building ammunition dumps. The camera-equipped airplane made it virtually impossible for an enemy to carry out these kinds of activities without being discovered.

Nolan vigorously exploited this new discipline. Flying both visual and photographic missions, the Army Air Service gathered information from over enemy-held territory. Although adverse weather conditions and poor visibility degraded the quality of photos, or grounded flights altogether, aerial reconnaissance had reached mammoth proportions by the time of the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives. From the start, the AEF trained its own photo interpreters. The AEF recruited artists to train as the first photo interpreters, and they were very successful. Nolan credited them with being the only "fellows who could distinguish camouflage from the real thing."

The widespread use of radios by both sides also opened up new dimensions for intelligence. The combination of the airplane and radio led to the use of air to ground wireless communications, providing vital direct communication between air crews and ground artillery units. Radio also linked headquarters, which because of distance, terrain, or hostile forces, could not communicate by wire. As



NARA

A mobile van used for radio direction-finding (DF) near Verdun, France, in 1918.



NARA

Army linguists in Europe, assigned to the G-2.

Nolan wrote, "All divisions, brigades, down to and including regiments were equipped with radio receiving apparatus and sending apparatus." With military communications improved, the opportunity to obtain intelligence through interception of messages increased.

Initially, COMINT support was provided from GHQ Chaumont. Code and cipher officers assigned to the Radio Intelligence Section (RIS) received, decoded, and translated enemy messages intercepted by field intercept stations established along the Western Front. Signal Corps personnel operated direction-finding and intercept equipment and also manned listening posts directed against enemy low-level telephone and ground telegraph communications. Unlike the photo-interpretation branch that sought to recruit artists, cryptanalysts were recruited from a broad field of professions. The RIS code and cipher section comprised two lawyers, a reporter, a music critic, a language professor, an architect, a chess expert, and an archaeologist.

Once the field armies were formed in mid-1918, Army-level radio intelligence sections attempted to decode enemy messages using keys provided by GHQ. Messages they could not decode were forwarded to GHQ. The Signal Corps also copied enemy airplane transmissions and notified the Army Radio Intelligence Officer of enemy batteries about to fire and the target area. This information was then passed on to the counter battery officer or the troops about to be shelled. The Signal Corps intercepts regularly confirmed enemy order of battle in addition to providing other vital information. It was reported that as many as two-thirds of the identifications of enemy divisions along the front were made through the ability of the Allies to decode intercepted wireless messages. Nolan admitted that "the little known activities of the code and cipher section were always much more interesting than espionage work ...."

COMINT, combined with PHOTINT, gave WWI battlefield commanders a view into the enemy's intentions that commanders in other wars never had. COMINT and PHOTINT, however, were not the only outgrowth of new inventions; modern technology influenced the emergence of other intel-



NARA

New collection technologies and improved communications provided vital information to the troops in combat.

ligence disciplines. Sophisticated acoustic and optical sensors provided early warning and targeting capability. While observation posts on high ground overlooking the enemy's positions spotted the area of the gun or battery firing, sound ranging determined the direction of the guns to within a few yards of their actual location. Nolan credited the Sound and Flash Ranging units, supported by aerial reconnaissance, for locating all German artillery batteries prior to the Battle of Saint Mihiel.

While technology gave commanders additional means of obtaining information, interrogating prisoners and examining captured documents retained their traditional importance. Document exploitation was carried out at GHQ by expert linguists trained to quickly assess if a document had intelligence value. Documents, such as captured orders, pay books, casualty lists, and letters, could provide important indications regarding enemy troop strength.

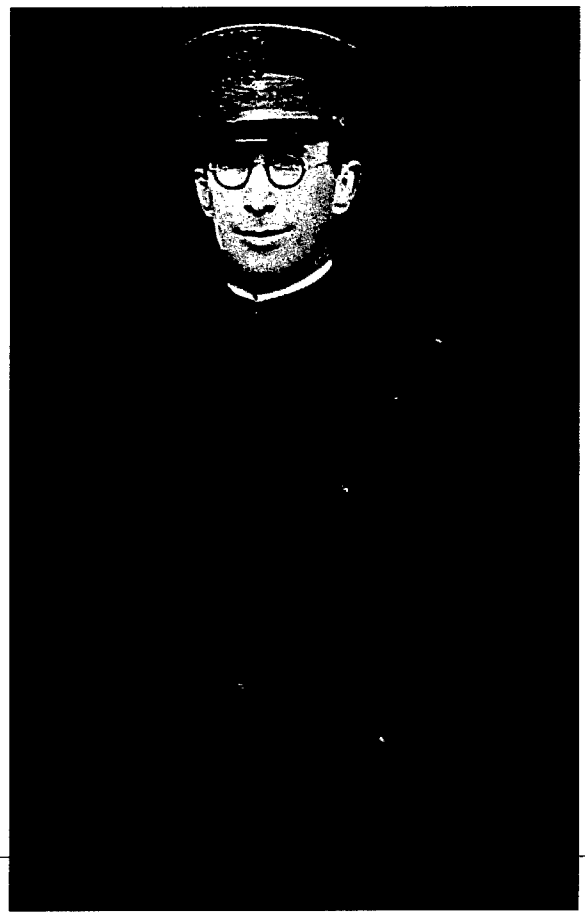
Linguists also served on interrogation teams. Great care was taken to check prisoners' statements. Disguised as captured German soldiers, agents fluent in German were placed among previously interrogated prisoners to report on their conversations. Information on enemy manpower obtained from interrogating prisoners usually was more dependable regarding a units strength before it entered the line, rather than after a battle, when losses are usually exaggerated. The quality of the information depended greatly on the interrogator's skill, so professional training was important. Intelligence officers assigned to prisoner-of-war interrogation and document exploitation were trained at the British intelligence school at Harrow until the AEF opened its own intelligence school at Langres in 1918. At Langres students had the opportunity to interrogate real prisoners-of-war.

The enormous mass of information flowing into the G2 logically led to a publishing role. The Information Division produced daily, weekly, and special reports. The intelligence officers proved themselves highly competent analysts who not only



INSCOM

Members of the Corps of Intelligence Police. The women in the front row were likely clerical personnel.



NOLAN FAMILY

reiterated accumulated intelligence, but explained the probable impact. GEN Pershing had this to say on the quality of intelligence reports: "A weekly summary of events was started in order to keep Washington advised of the general situation as it appeared at my headquarters. These reports were based mainly on information gathered by the Intelligence Section of the General Staff from every available source, and in addition to the resume of facts, it is remarkable how accurate they were in drawing conclusions and in forecasting conditions."

General Pershing also recognized the need for the American Army to have its own counterintelligence resources. Counterintelligence support to the AEF was provided by intelligence officers and a new

BG Nolan's brother Martin, a doctor, died in France.

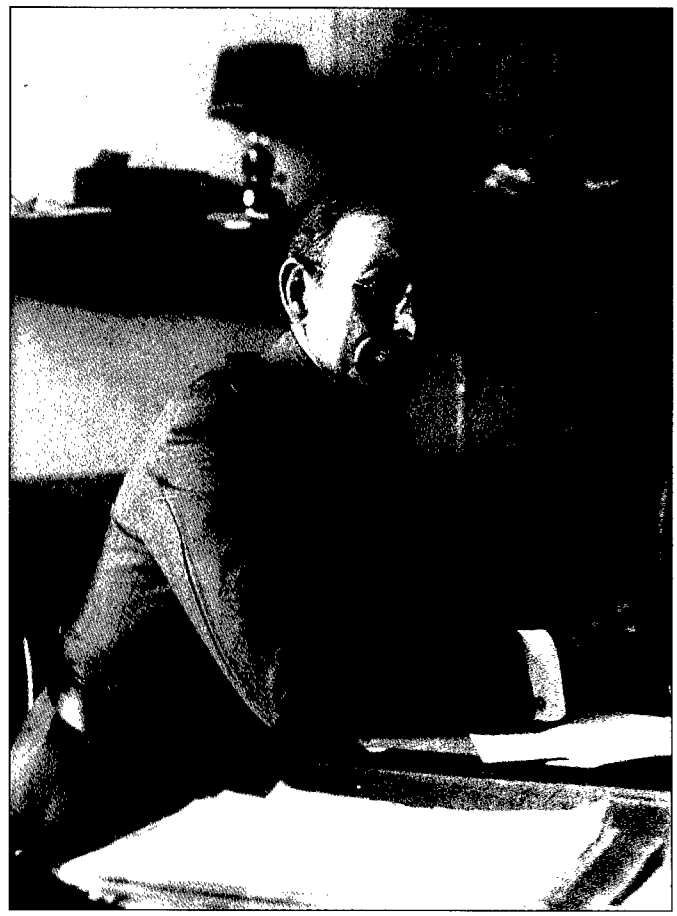
BG Nolan with General Pershing.



NARA

group of enlisted specialists: the Army's Corps of Intelligence Police (CIP). Concerned over the security issues confronting an American Army operating in a foreign country, Nolan initiated the CIP when he requested the Adjutant General provide "50 secret service men who have had training in police work, who speak French fluently" to serve as sergeants.

Recruitment for the CIP was conducted, with mixed results, by ads placed in local papers for French-speaking men willing to volunteer for a secret mission. Once in France, not all the recruits were found to have the qualifications required for acceptance at the Allied counterintelligence school at Le Havre, and many were rejected. This inauspicious beginning notwithstanding, the CIP grew into a professional, effective organization. GEN Pershing found the CIP so useful that by the time of the Armistice 418 CIP men were on duty with the AEF. The CIP would remain the Army's permanent counterintelligence organization and become the Army Counter Intelligence Corps in 1942. Under Nolan, AEF intelligence expanded enormously and by the end of the conflict Pershing felt that America had the best intelligence of any army in Europe.


NARA

Colonel Nolan sitting at desk; May 23, 1918.

PROPAGANDA AND CENSORSHIP

On September 1, 1917 General Headquarters moved to a regimental barracks in the town of Chaumont, a typical French provincial city about 100 miles southeast of Paris. At last Nolan, who had been promoted to Colonel (temporary) in August, had plenty of room to accommodate his growing staff. In addition to the duties of the G-2, Nolan assumed a personal role in propaganda, censorship, and handling of war correspondents. Nolan's Censorship and Press Division (G-2-D) conducted what was easily the most effective bit of propaganda of the entire war. As the American Army got into action on its own sector, it was urgent that more German prisoners be taken to gain some needed information. Frustrating the effort, however, was a report circulating among the German ranks declaring Americans would show no mercy to prisoners. There were indications the Germans, fearful of cruel treatment, would die rather than surrender.

Hitting upon an idea, Nolan recovered an old treaty between Prussia and the United States signed around 1819, concerning the treatment of prisoners of war. The American Army was bound by the treaty to feed prisoners the same rations issued to American soldiers, and otherwise accord them like treatment; in return, Germany would do the same. Nolan worked out a plan by which the agreement could be communicated to the German troops.

It was decided to print millions of postcards and drop them over enemy lines. One side of the card was a blank form on which the German soldier merely had to write his name. It explained he was a prisoner in American hands, and he could indicate whether he was sick or well. Printed in German on the reverse side of the card was a clause dealing with the treatment of prisoners. Below the treaty clause was a list of edibles composing the American ration. To hungry men it was most alluring. The Air Service showered the

German army in reserve and in the trenches with millions of the cards. The response, shown in the willingness of German soldiers to surrender when cornered, was almost immediate.

As the head censor of the AEF, Nolan had the final word on press correspondents' dispatches and postal and telegraph communications. He even ventured into newspaper publishing. *The Stars and Stripes* is the best-known military newspaper of all time. What may be less known is its genesis during World War I in the offices of the General Headquarters of the AEF. An infantry second lieutenant, Guy T. Viskniskki, then an assistant press officer, proposed establishing an official newspaper published by and for the AEF. In his proposal, Viskniskki argued that a newspaper providing news from home would boost the morale of the approximately 2,000,000 American soldiers serving in Europe.

Nolan recognized that the General Staff could use the paper as a means of communicating orders and regulations relating to military courtesy, personal and collective hygiene, and other items of military conduct. The paper would also include news of events within the AEF. Colonel Nolan forwarded the proposal with his endorsement to GEN Pershing. The general approved the publication of a weekly newspaper under the direction of G-2-D. The paper was given the title of *The Stars and Stripes* and appeared for the first time on February 8, 1918. In a position that normally set newspapermen and censors at odds, Nolan was able to develop a closer working relationship with the press than most of his colleagues had. The professional journalists who formed the nucleus of *The Stars and Stripes* admired him for his honesty in his dealings with them, and he gained their trust. Nolan would say after the war *The Stars and Stripes* was one job that



NARA

Convalescent soldier enjoying the "Stars and Stripes."

was almost 100% perfect in that it completely fulfilled the purpose for which it was created.

COMBAT COMMANDER

Throughout the war Nolan continued to spend time on the front lines during key engagements (Soissons, Chateau-Thierry, Saint-Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne) to inspect American combat intelligence. Pershing's Army conducted two significant operations in the great counterattack of the autumn of 1918: U.S. forces successfully assaulted the Saint-Mihiel salient in September 1918; Pershing then regrouped his forces for the Meuse-Argonne offensive. The mission to conclude the offensive at St. Mihiel and initiate within 2 weeks a still greater operation along the front between the Meuse River and the Argonne Forest, 40 miles away, put a great burden on the American First Army. The hurried preparation for the Meuse-Argonne offensive resulted in the more seasoned American divisions remaining at St. Mihiel.

The 28th Division, a Pennsylvania National Guard unit, was designated one of the initial assault formations for the second offensive. Preparatory bombardment began early on the morning of September 26. The infantry quickly broke through the enemy's obstacles and made excellent progress. Elements of the artillery moved forward before noon to support the breakthrough and the division captured Varennes, a village along the Aire River. Tank formations assisted in the assault and the advance continued. Apremont was occupied on September 28. That same day, GEN Pershing visited the headquarters of the 28th Division, then at Varennes. The division's Commanding General complained of a lack of trained officers. Fortunately, newly promoted BG Nolan was nearby observing Intelligence Service operations. To ensure the holding of Apremont, on the evening of September 28th, GEN Pershing assigned BG Nolan to take command of the 28th Division's 55th Infantry Brigade. Nolan's brigade withstood three counterattacks as the Germans tried to retake Apremont. A



NARA

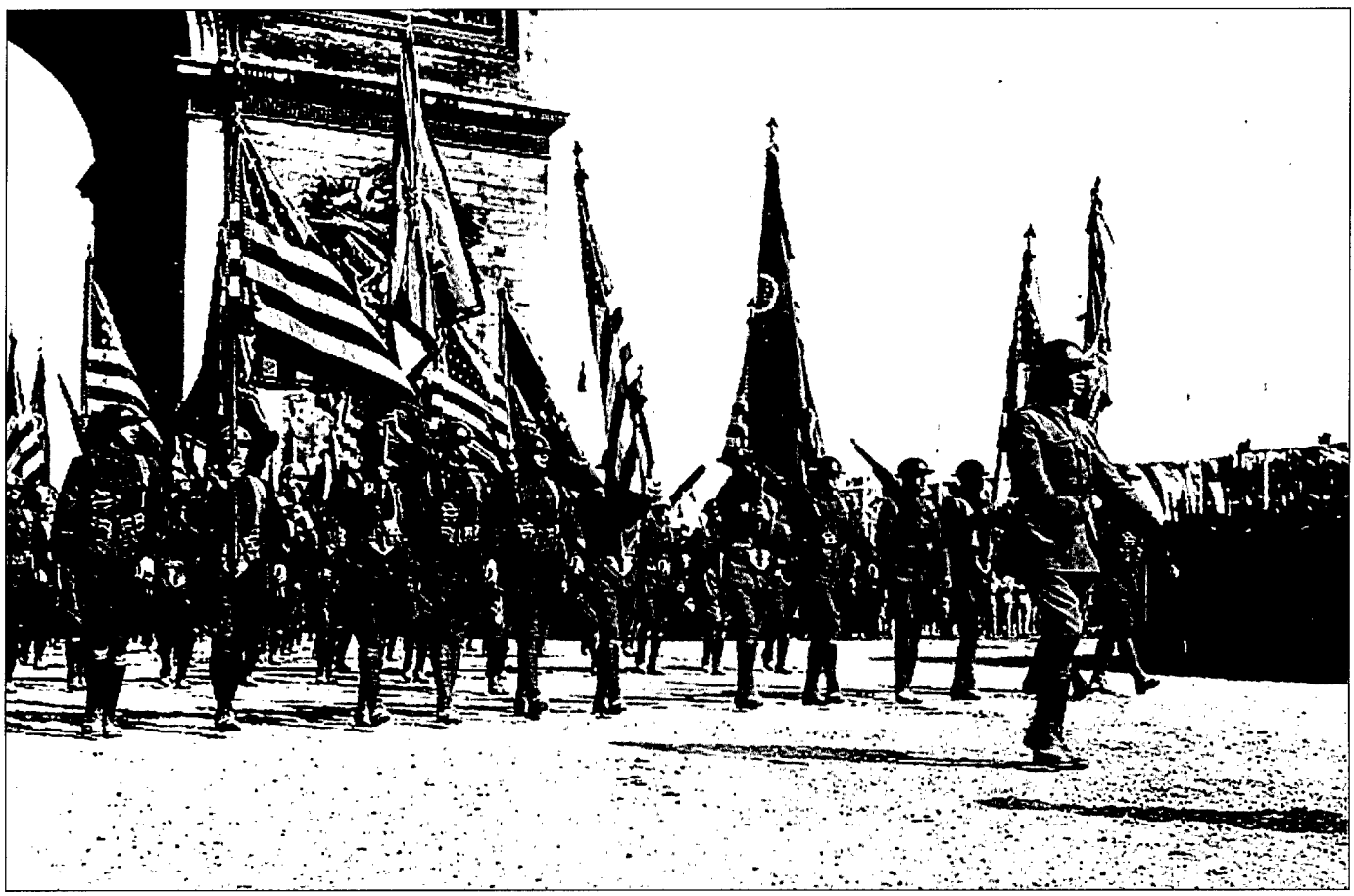
BG Nolan on the battlefield. Nolan received the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism during the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

terrific barrage preceded each enemy attack. Despite the hail of German shells and the resulting congestion and confusion, BG Nolan made his way into the town of Apremont and personally directed his tanks' movements. The final German counterattack, made by two regiments at daylight on October 1st, was repulsed with heavy German losses, and counterattacks in that sector ceased. Nolan continued commanding the 55th Brigade until the division was pulled out of the line October 8.

On the battlefield, Nolan's leadership earned the respect of his men, many of whom expressed surprise at seeing "generals like that were right up there with us doughboys." Statements by the 28th Division soldiers reflected their esteem for BG Nolan: "General Nolan worked out the defense of Apremont before the German counterattack," said one of Nolan's lieutenants. "Then in the thickest of the fight he came out and joined us." Another observed: "While we were up there fighting we saw him going from shell hole to shell hole, never bending his head. This is what gives men grit. I never saw the general we had before outside of a dugout, the new one was always leading us."

BG Nolan was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in repulsing the German counter attack. His citation states "His indomitable courage and coolness so inspired his forces that about 400 of our troops repulsed an attack of two enemy regiments." Tragically, in the same month, General Nolan would learn of the death of his youngest brother, MAJ Martin F. Nolan, a member of the Medical Corps in France. Dr. Nolan had been assigned as the head of the pneumonia ward in Base Hospital 41at St. Denis. General Nolan's other brother, Daniel, was also serving in France in the infantry. Daniel would survive the war and attain the rank of full colonel before retiring.

American troops helped turn the tide of stalemate in the muddy trenches of France and Belgium. Allied victory was reached at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. The efficiency



NARA

Victorious U.S. troops march through Paris after the Armistice.

of the intelligence service contributed to the American Army's successes. Nolan received the U.S. Distinguished Service Medal "for organizing and administering the A.E.F. intelligence service." After the armistice, Nolan accompanied the American delegation to the Peace Conference at Versailles. As an Army representative, Nolan served on the subcommittee charged with drafting the portion of the treaty relating to German disarmament. Meanwhile, Nolan remained the Chief of the Intelligence Services, AEF, until demobilization of the intelligence service was completed, which occurred after the signing of the Versailles Treaty of Peace, June 28, 1919.

Less than 3 weeks later, Dennis Nolan returned to his family, carrying with him orders to report to the Commandant of the General Staff College, Washington, D.C., as Director of the Course in Military Intelligence.

CHAPTER FIVE:
THE POST WAR YEARS

DEMOBILIZATION

After a 2-year separation, Nolan and his family were reunited in the summer of 1919. He reported to the Army War College as a major. Like other AEF brigadier generals Nolan had been reduced in rank during demobilization. Men who had contributed to the AEF's success found themselves outranked by officers who had never commanded a division in combat. Nolan experienced the humiliation of being outranked by a colonel in the War Department who had been relieved by Nolan in France for inefficiency. General Pershing vociferously objected to these reductions in grade and took every opportunity to express his viewpoint.

Nolan took leave from his duties at the War College from December to mid-February to accompany Pershing and a number of former AEF officers on a cross-country inspection tour. Feted at numerous ceremonies, Pershing spoke about the victorious AEF, military preparedness, and the need for universal training. At the tour's conclusion, Pershing wrote a report that listed those military installations he thought most important to retain and suggested steps to redress shortcomings in training, pay, and housing conditions. He recommended increased pay for officers and NCOs and advocated adjustment of rank to correct the demotions. As a result of Pershing's efforts, MAJ Nolan received a series of rapid



The Army War College.

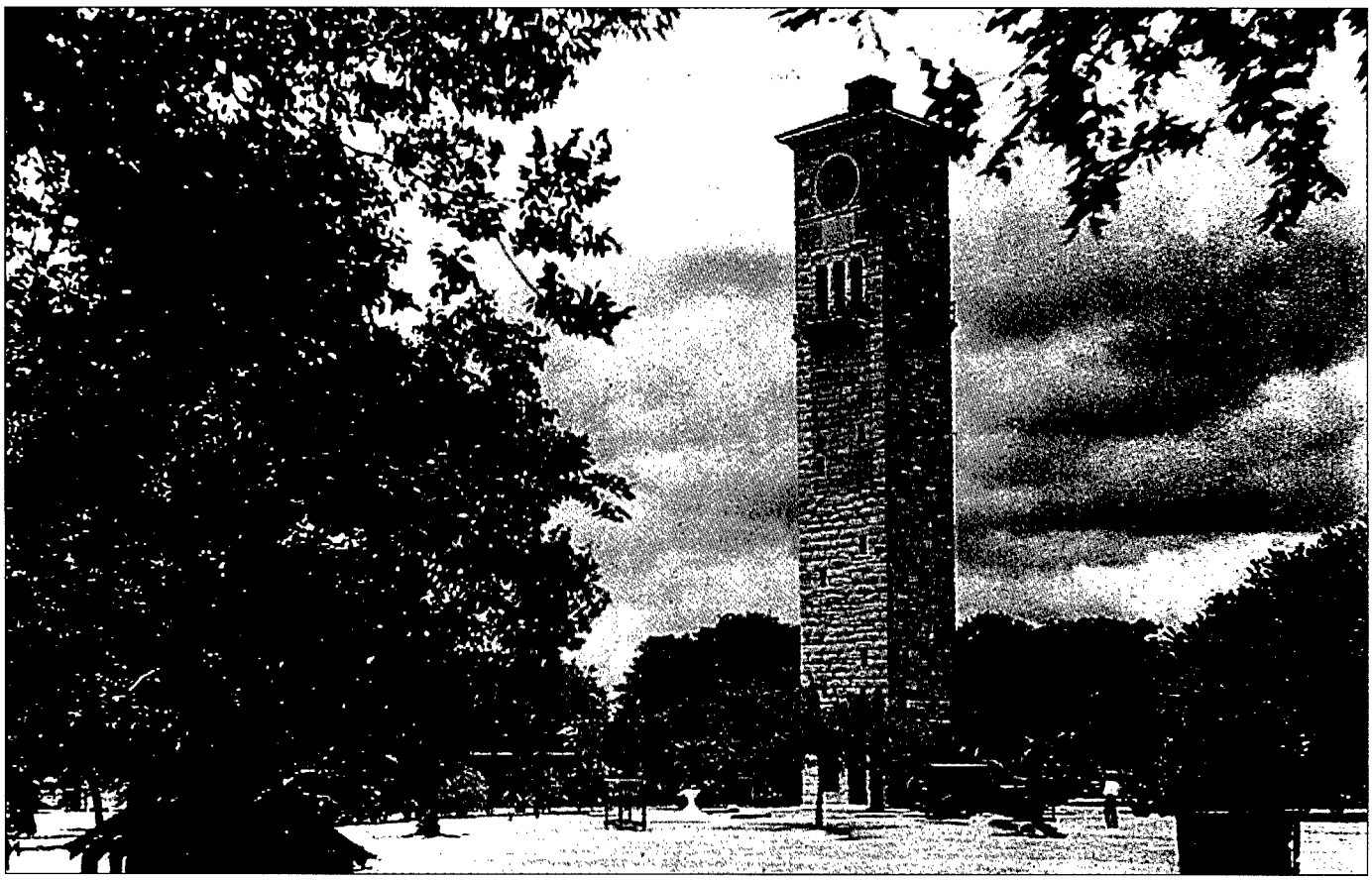
promotions and by the end of July 1920 was a Brigadier General, Regular Army.

After serving a year on the Army War College faculty, Nolan was appointed in August 1920 as the first peacetime Director of the Military Intelligence Division (G-2). Nolan had the impossible task of maintaining an effective military intelligence capability while the Army was undergoing severe cuts in strength and budget. The American public, believing the U.S. would never again be involved in a major ground war, was unwilling to support a force larger than was needed to defend the continental United States and its possessions.

Although the National Defense Act of 1920 established a Regular Army of 280,000 men, the National Guard of 475,000 men, and the Organized Reserves (Officers' and Enlisted Reserve Corps), Congress failed to appropriate the money to maintain the authorized force. Within the year the Army was reduced to 150,000 men by repeated budget cuts that inevitably affected the MID. Despite the innovations and accomplishments of the intelligence services of the AEF, many decision-makers were not convinced military intelligence was a necessary activity during peacetime. Nolan expressed his concern, stating:

> My fear is that in the pressure of many things, claiming time for training, our Army may lapse into the pre-war days in its attitude toward the whole question of combat intelligence and that information regarding the enemy for our tactical problems and in our maneuvers will be based on the old and easy assumption that all information needed of the enemy is obtained from an enemy inhabitant.

Nolan's fears were soon realized; the number of officers assigned to the MID steadily declined. Although Nolan's own tour lasted only a year, he left behind an important legacy: the Military Intelligence Officers Reserve Corps. Knowing it was essential to maintain a pool of professional military intelligence specialists who would augment the Army's intelligence capability in the event of war,



NARA

The clock tower at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. Assigned to command the Artillery Brigade of the 2d Division, Nolan later assumed command of the division.

Nolan encouraged the establishment of an organization, separate and distinct from the regular branch Officer Reserve Corps. He was able to influence the architects of the National Defense Act of 1920 to establish a military intelligence reserve element—the first recognition of the need for professional military intelligence officers and the forerunner of the Military Intelligence Branch.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The War Department announced in August 1921 transfer of a number of staff officers to field commands. Nolan was among the officers selected for reassignment. After only 2 years in Washington, the Nolans prepared for the move to Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. Following command of the Artillery Brigade of the 2d Division, Nolan became commanding general of the division.

Nolan's next assignment took the family back to the nation's capital. Lady welcomed the return to Washington, D.C., where they would see old friends. Likely, she also appreciated the educational and social opportunities available in the Washington area for young Ellen, who was about to enter her teenage years. Ellen was enrolled in a private Catholic school in Georgetown. The elder Nolans quickly resumed entertaining and began to broaden their social circle. Dennis joined both the Chevy Chase and Army and Navy clubs, where, taking a respite from his duties, he worked on improving his golf game. The relaxed routine was soon disrupted by new challenges. After a tour at the War Department General Staff as the Assistant Chief of Staff in Charge of Supply (G-4), Nolan became Deputy Chief of Staff on September 13, 1924. He was promoted to Major General on January 18, 1925.

Nolan now held the second highest office in the Army at a time when the Army was in the midst of a furor caused by the court-martial of BG William "Billy" Mitchell. Mitchell was outspoken in his opinion about the proper utilization and recognition of air power, advocating an air service employed independently from the control of the ground forces. Boldly announcing aviation was the weapon of the future and criticizing the military hierarchy that did not accept his views, he antagonized the Army and a tradition-minded Navy that steadfastly upheld the battleship's supremacy over aircraft and the potential of the aircraft carrier.



NOLAN FAMILY

Ellen Nolan, age 17.

When Mitchell publicly accused the War Department and the General Staff of "incompetency, criminal negligence" and "almost treasonable administration of the National Defense," the War Department had no choice but to bring him before a court-martial. Mitchell's chief defense counsel was a member of Congress, Representative Frank R. Reid of Illinois. The trial was on the front page of every newspaper in the country, with supporters charging that it was merely the latest step taken by the General Staff to "get Mitchell" and stop the campaign for strengthening the nation's air power. Mitchell was not tried on the validity of his accusations, but rather for conduct unbecoming an officer.

Nolan testified for the War Department General Staff. In December 1925, the court convicted Mitchell of charges of insubordination and suspended him from rank, command, and duty, with forfeiture of all pay and allowances for 5 years. He resigned from the service shortly thereafter. The trial's outcome was widely discussed on Capitol

Hill, where pro-Mitchell legislators introduced bills to curtail the authority of military courts-martial, remove Mitchell's 5-year suspension, and abolish all court-martial trials in peacetime. Although Nolan's personal views on the issue are unknown, as the spokesman for the War Department he became the focus of attacks made by Mitchell's defenders. A congressman from Texas called for Nolan's suspension for 5 years.

Nolan continued as the Deputy Chief of Staff until March 1926, at which time he was detailed to the disarmament conference at Geneva, Switzerland. His official position was Chief of the Army Representation of the War Department with the Preparatory Commission on the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments. The Army relied upon Nolan, with his broad experience, to present the professional view on the question of disarmament. Once again Nolan found himself thrust into a prominent role.

Disagreeing on a number of issues, the French and the British were divided from the start over whether reserve forces should be counted for the purposes of determining a country's military might. The American delegation assumed the role of mediator, taking the position that armaments should, as Nolan put it, "be defined as the organized military forces of the country, including reserves, with their material and installations actually in being."

Other issues confronted the American delegation. The American and Italian delegations objected to supervision of any armaments by an international body. Despite an American proposal that the conference should deal with land armaments only, limitation of naval armaments was also on the agenda. A point of contention was the proposed criteria for judging a country's naval power. The Americans, supported by Great Britain, Argentina, and Chile held the minority view, contending a



NARA

BG William "Billy" Mitchell standing before court-martial.

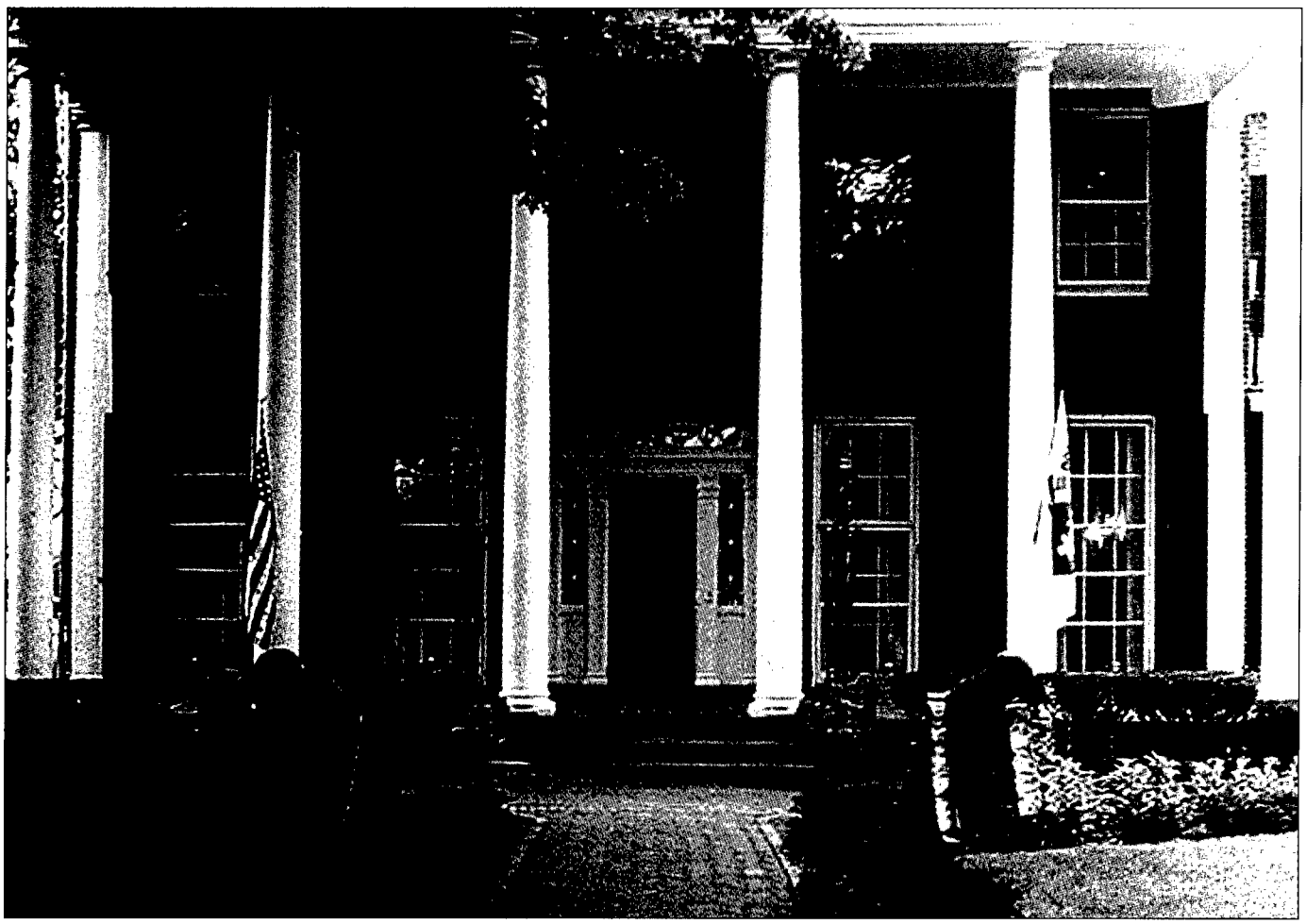
country's naval strength could be compared to that of another by comparing the tonnage of classes of ships. The majority of delegates favored comparing the total tonnage of entire navies, without regard to classes of ships. For his services in Geneva, Nolan was made a Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown by Italy and a Grand Officer of the National Order of Merit by Chile.

While still in Europe, Nolan was named as the next commander of the 5th Corps Area, with headquarters at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio. The family departed for Ohio immediately upon his return. To administer the standing army and reserves as established in the National Defense Act of 1920, the War Department had divided the Army inside the continental U.S., Alaska, and Puerto Rico into nine corps areas, assigned to the headquarters of three armies. The Fifth Corps Area was one of the largest of the nine geographical districts into which the U.S. was divided. Nolan assumed command on June 9, 1927.

Nolan's responsibilities included overseeing the training of the National Guard and Army Reserve, which required frequent travel on inspection tours. His duties were not confined to military matters, however. A corps commander was expected to foster cordial relations between the military community and the civilian officials and population of the surrounding area. Nolan acknowledged this responsibility: "While the first duty of any military commander is to ensure efficiency of the army units assigned to him, yet there devolves, especially in peace time, the duty of liaison with the American public...." Nolan impressed many with his graciousness, tact, modesty, and affability.

THE FINAL TOUR

Nolan's 4 years as the Commander, Fifth Corps Area prepared him for the final and most important assignment of his peacetime career. Nolan assumed the position as commander of



COAST GUARD

The Commanding General's quarters at Governors Island.

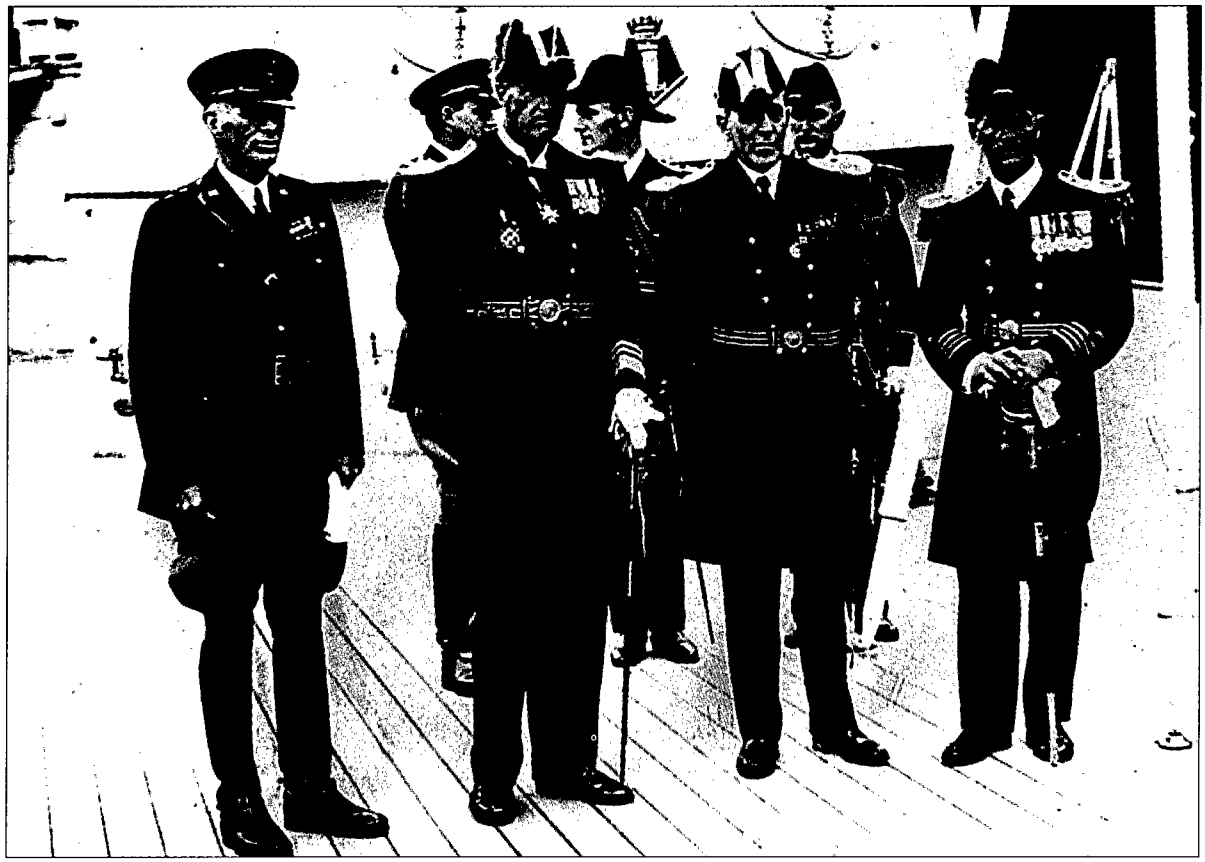
Second Corps Area, with headquarters at Governors Island, New York, on December 1, 1931. The War Department traditionally offered the post to the ranking major general of the Army, but that distinction belonged to Major General Douglas MacArthur, who already held the position of chief of staff. The Second Corps Area comprised New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Puerto Rico.

General Nolan's reputation as one of the Army's most outstanding general officers preceded him at Governors Island. The post welcomed its new commander with the pageantry of a change of command befitting the prestigious position. The Nolans were greeted by the 16th Infantry, an honor guard, the 16th Infantry band, and newspaper reporters. As the band played the General's March, a salute of 13 guns were fired. After the welcoming ceremonies, Nolan made himself available to the newspapermen, who wrote enthusiastically about the appointment of a native New Yorker to the post of commander. Both Mrs. Nolan and Ellen asserted they were "excited and happy" over the opportunity to be in New York. Nolan jokingly told the audience he intended to let some of his aides carry on many of the official duties while he attended to his "golf and other necessary social duties."

The Second Corps Area Commander was expected to be more than just an Army officer, he was sort of an unofficial ambassador to the City of New York. Nolan took command at a critical time; America was in the midst of an acute economic crisis, and New York's governor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, was preparing for his 1932 presidential campaign. The Nolans were introduced to New York society at a reception and tea given in their honor. More than 600 guests attended, including many persons prominent in naval, military and social circles. The Nolans were pleased to see many of their old friends, including MG and Mrs. James Harbord.

One of Nolan's first acts was to visit Mayor James Walker at City Hall. The mayor expressed pleasure at greeting a New Yorker as commandant, and Nolan extended a formal invitation to the mayor to visit Governors Island. He would be one of many dignitaries who were eventually entertained by Nolan, including General Pershing (retired), the Secretary of War, a Soviet consul, and admirals of the British Navy. The arrival of a British admiral on the 10,000-ton cruiser HMS *Norfolk* received the most public attention. When the USS *New Mexico* passed the British cruiser as she steamed up the Hudson, the officer of the deck ordered a personal salute of fifteen guns to the British commander, and it was answered gun for gun from the cruiser. As the *Norfolk* neared the port her guns roared another 21 times in a national salute and the batteries at Governors Island responded in kind.

During his first year as Commander, Second Corps Area, Nolan embarked on a 2-week inspection tour to Puerto Rico, accompanied by Lady and Ellen. Lady accompanied her husband on numerous inspection trips throughout the Second Corps Area, and was herself a sought-after guest. In October 1932, the Betsy Ross Corps of women aviators honored Mrs. Nolan at a reception. The hostess, Mrs. Opal Kunz, had hosted the first women's pilots association, The Ninety-Nines, at her home in New York City in 1929. Two years later she established the Betsy Ross Corps and gained government approval for them to use the military runways in the Second Corps Area jurisdiction. Undoubtedly, she recognized the advantage of obtaining Mrs. Nolan's support for the group's affiliation with the Second Corps Area.



NY TIMES

High-ranking British officers with Nolan on deck of ship. Nolan hosted many foreign visitors at Governors Island.



NY TIMES

MG Nolan as Grand Marshal of the National Recovery Act parade in 1933.

The Nolans found their commitments ever increasing. Their second year would prove to be even more eventful than their first. Nolan's ceremonial duties included serving as Grand Marshal of the parade to inaugurate the National Recovery Act (NRA) on September 13, 1933. The NRA was a key recovery measure of Roosevelt's New Deal. Enacted to stimulate business enterprise, it established a 35- to 40-hour work week, minimum wages of 30 cents an hour, and prohibited child labor. The NRA parade was the largest in American history to that time and marked by a fervor not seen since the celebrations marking the end of WWI. Nolan led the way on horseback. The parade took 9 hours and 37 minutes from its start until the last unit passed the reviewing stand.

While public events occupied much of the Nolans' time in 1933, they would remember the year more for a personal milestone. Ellen had become engaged to LT Edward Hamilton Young, a 1921 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and her father's aide-de-camp. The wedding arrangements were certainly the focal point of Lady's energy for most of the year. Ellen and Edward were married on November 2, 1933 in the Post Chapel at Governors Island with the concomitant Army traditions.

The year was also momentous to Nolan professionally. First Army Headquarters was activated on 1 October 1933 at Governors Island. For his last 2 years at Second Corps Area headquarters, Nolan was dual hatted as Commander, Second Corps Area and Commanding General First Army, becoming



NARA

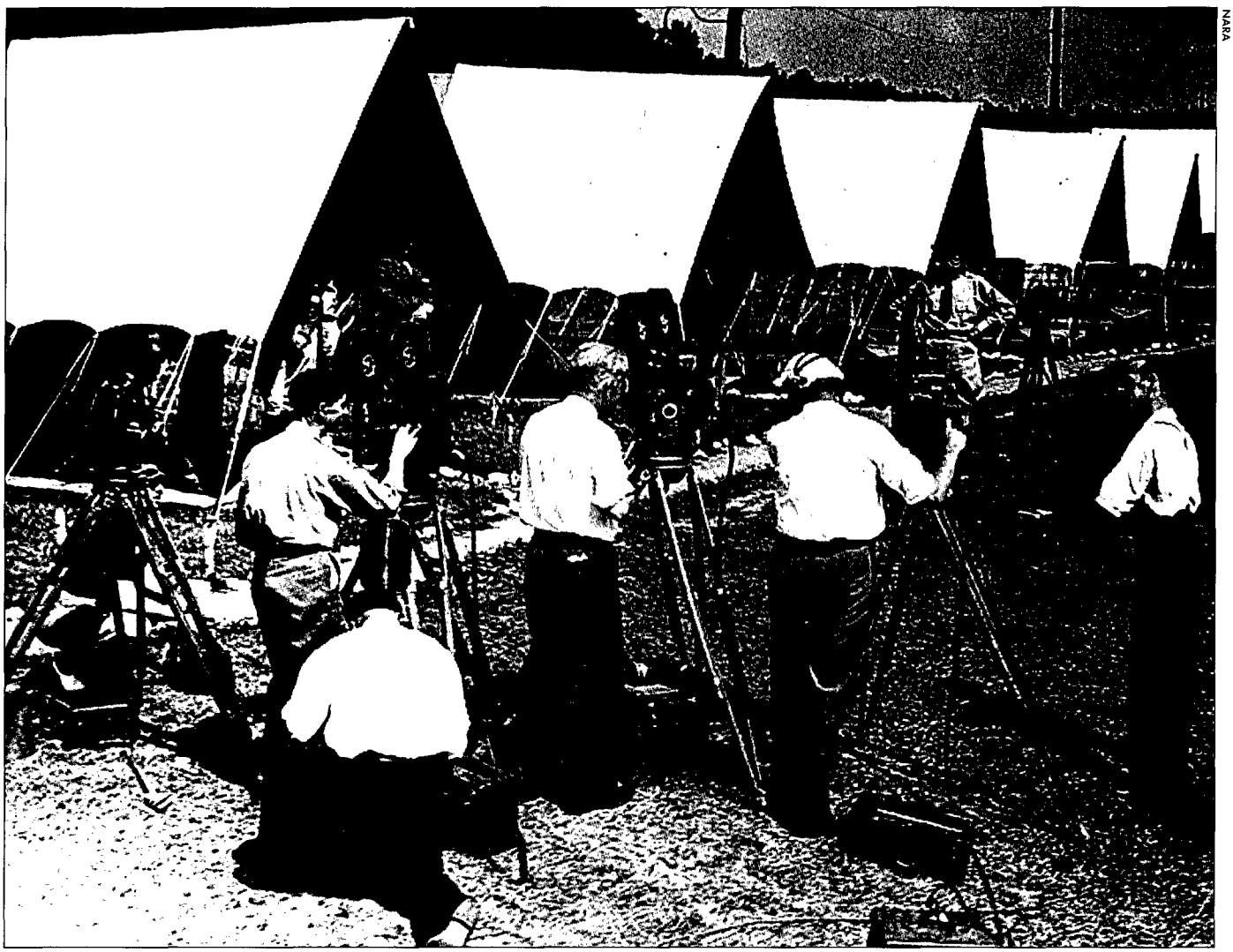
MG Nolan with foreign observers at First Army Headquarters.

the first peacetime commander of First Army. In 1935 Nolan oversaw the combat tactics exercises at Camp Pine, NY—the largest Army field maneuvers since WWI. The exercises were thoroughly covered by the news media and viewed in movie theaters across the country by way of newsreels.

As Nolan's 5th year at Governors Island approached, there were rumors he might be selected to succeed MacArthur as Chief of Staff of the Army. Many believed General MacArthur and Nolan would likely exchange places. However, MacArthur's 4-year term as Chief of Staff had been extended by President Roosevelt to October 1935, and Nolan was due for retirement on April 30, 1936. The pending retirement, compulsory at age 64, precluded his appointment. Nolan finished his active career as Commanding General of the Second Corps Area and Commanding General of First Army.

As the day of his retirement neared, Nolan was honored by a field service regimental review of the 165th Infantry, popularly known as New York's old "Fighting 69th". On April 17, 1936 he reviewed the regiment for the last time as an active officer in the U.S. Army. As he was greeted 5 years earlier on his arrival at Governors Island, a 13-gun salute now sounded the farewell as Major General Nolan completed his final inspection and boarded a ferry for Manhattan, accompanied by Lady.

On April 30, 1936 Nolan retired. President Roosevelt acknowledged the nation's debt: "For his long and brilliant service as an army officer in peace and in war, General Nolan merits the grati-



NARA

General Nolan poses in front of cameramen. The First Army maneuvers at Camp Pine received heavy media coverage.



MG Nolan with his wife and daughter, Mrs. Ellen Honora Young.

tude of the people of the country." Roosevelt also observed: "His splendid public service and his high character have won for him the love and esteem of all who know him." Nolan would never lose interest in the development of military intelligence and often spoke and wrote on the subject. He also advocated the publishing of an official history of the AEF for the American public. Referring to the military lessons to be learned from WWI, he continued to stress preparedness, urging a draft.

PUBLIC SERVANT

The Nolans retired to the prestigious Blackstone Hotel at 50 East 58th Street in New York City, but were seldom at home. The general was frequently the guest of military units, and Mrs. Nolan often accompanied him. In August 1936, at the Governors Island Officers Club in the presence of 125 officers and other guests, Mrs. Nolan unveiled a bust of MG Nolan. The likeness was a gift from the Second Corps Area troops. As President of the Association of Graduates USMA from June 1938 to June 1940, Nolan returned to West Point on ceremonial occasions.

Even as a civilian, Nolan would continue to be dedicated to public service. Immediately following his retirement the administrators of the New York World's Fair asked Nolan to take charge of coordinating states' participation. He traveled throughout the U.S. encouraging support and successfully organized the largest participation of states, far exceeding that of any previous exposition. Most presented exhibits of their natural resources and industries. The 1939 New York World's Fair was the most ambitious international exposition ever put on. The city built 300 buildings on a 1200-acre site to house the Fair's 1500 exhibitors, including 33 states, 58 foreign countries and 1300 business firms. The Fair Committee christened the conglomeration "The World of Tomorrow" and dedicated it to both the blessings of democracy and the wonders of technology. The latter included such marvels as television, nylon stockings, and a robot named Elektro.

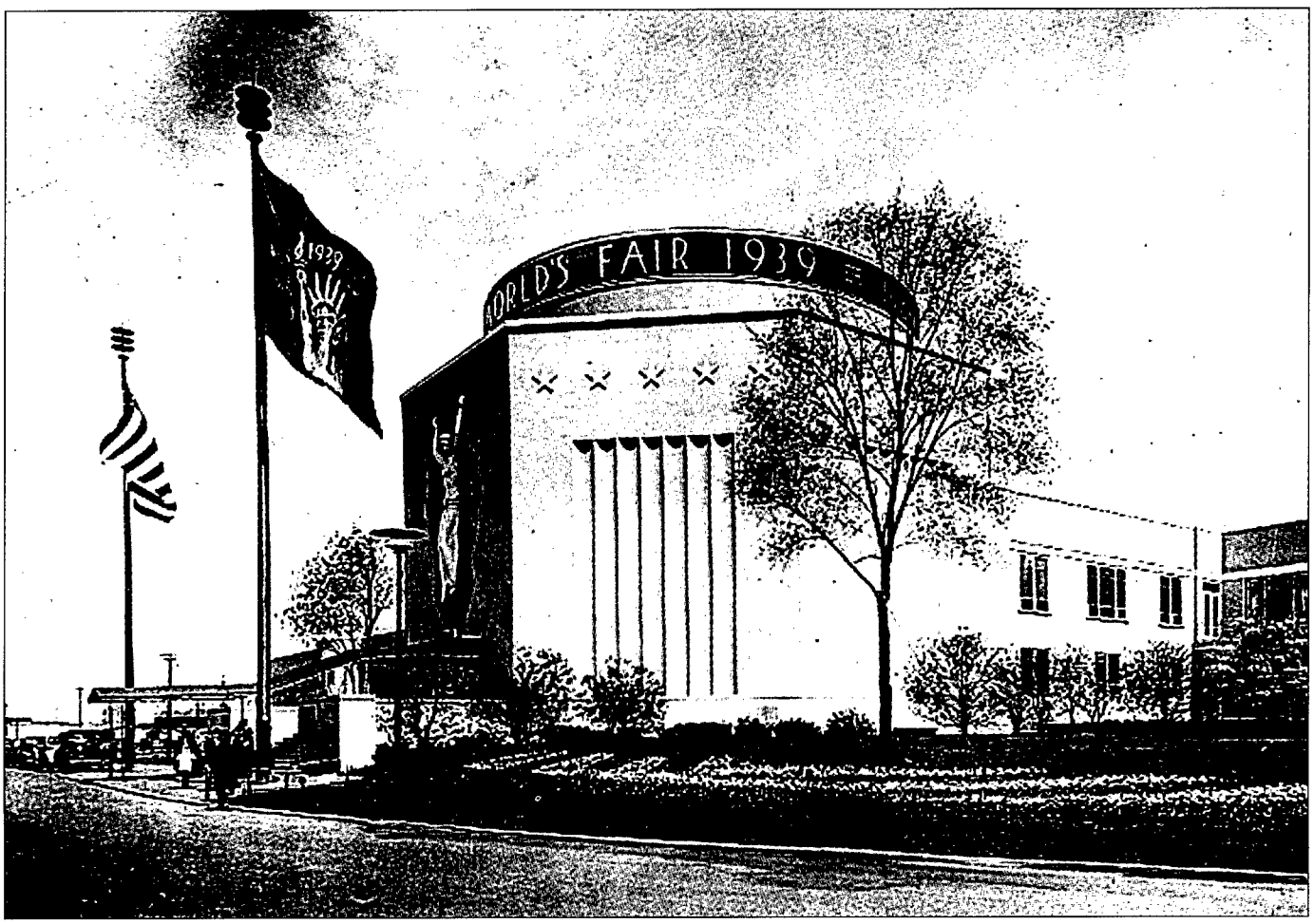
When the Fair's activities terminated in 1940, Nolan was appointed the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Citizens' Budget Commission of NYC. Composed of public-spirited citizens, the commission monitored the city's finances and expenditures. Nolan strongly advocated budget reductions in city, state, and Federal government. As the crisis in Europe mounted and the likelihood of America's involvement grew, Nolan warned "national defense will strain the taxable resources of the country to the limit for years to come." He believed state and local government administrators had a patriotic duty to conserve their financial resources for national defense. The New York Times quoted Nolan: "The additional cost of national defense can be offset only in substantial degree by economy in local government. Such economy is part and parcel of the national defense program."

Nolan's experience in WW I and his reputation as an able administrator led some officials to consider recalling Nolan to active duty. In the early

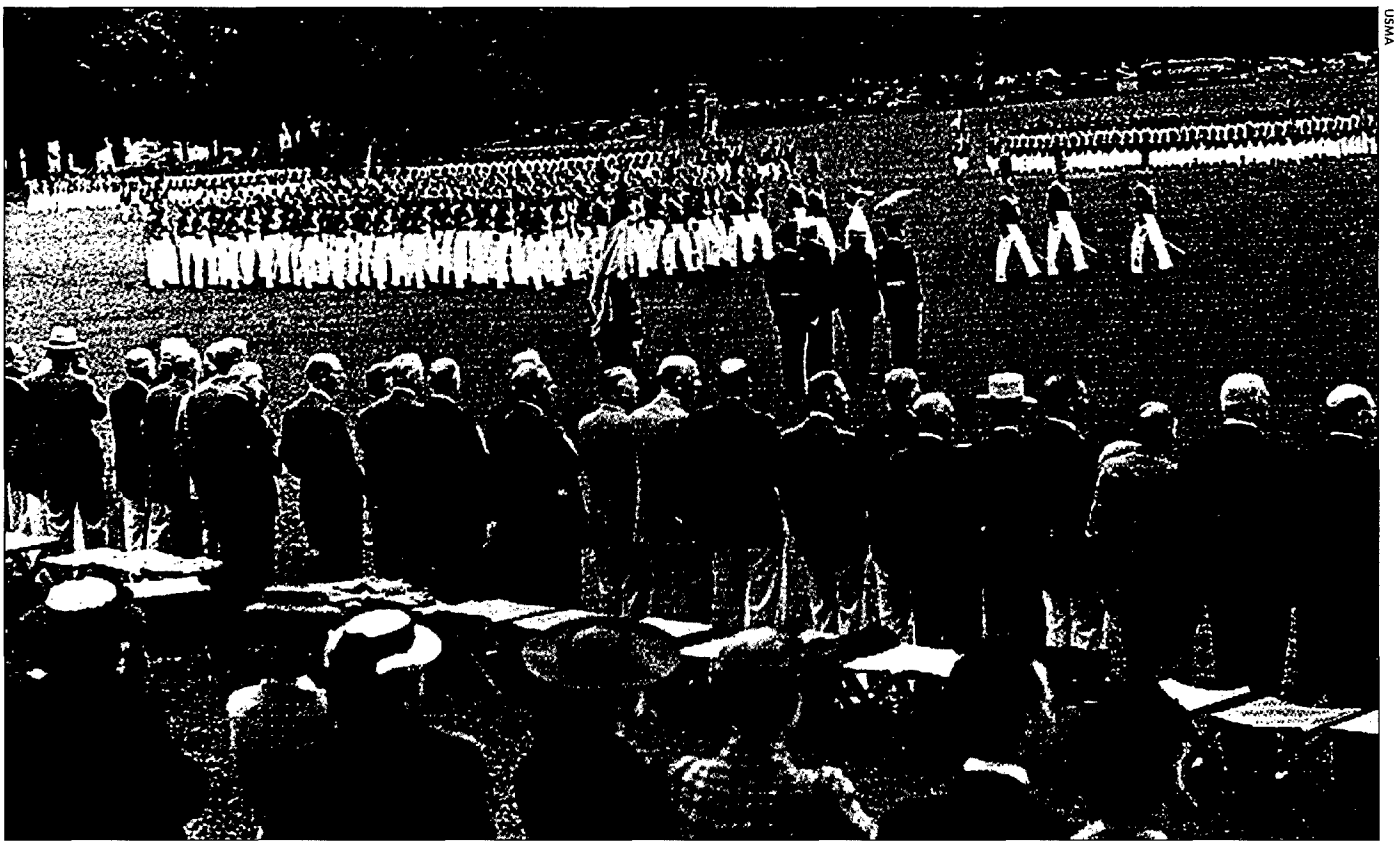
days of World War II, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson recommended to the White House that General Nolan be recalled to active duty to help integrate Office of War Information propaganda with military operations. However, Roosevelt had other plans for the organization of the OWI and the services of the 70-year-old Nolan were not required.

Nolan remained Chairman of the Citizen's Budget Commission until 1951, and thereafter served, until his death, as a member of the Board of Trustees. Prior to his death on February 24, 1956, at the age of 83, he had been ill about a month and had recently undergone surgery in Roosevelt Hospital. On August 10, 1956, services were held on Governors Island to pay tribute to the memory of MG Dennis Nolan. Mrs. Nolan unveiled a bronze tablet, which was placed in the small park in front of the house where she and the general spent the last 5 years of their active service. Mrs. Nolan kept her home in the Blackstone Hotel until she passed away on January 5, 1968. General and Mrs. Nolan are interred at the Arlington National Cemetery.

Dennis Nolan embodied the soldierly qualities and character that were part of a centuries-old Army tradition and holds a place among the leaders who served their country with signal distinction in peace and in war. Among all the tributes paid to the Nolans, perhaps Dennis's nephew, Martin Nolan, described them best: "They were first of all people who knew who they were and what they had done, what they stood for. They didn't demonstrate stuffiness or ego; the family seldom used the word 'I.' They had survived some very difficult personal struggles and historical crises; they understood people and had the tolerance and humor to deal with all sorts of events and conflicts. He was a true gentleman and she a lovely lady."



World's Fair 1939 front entrance.



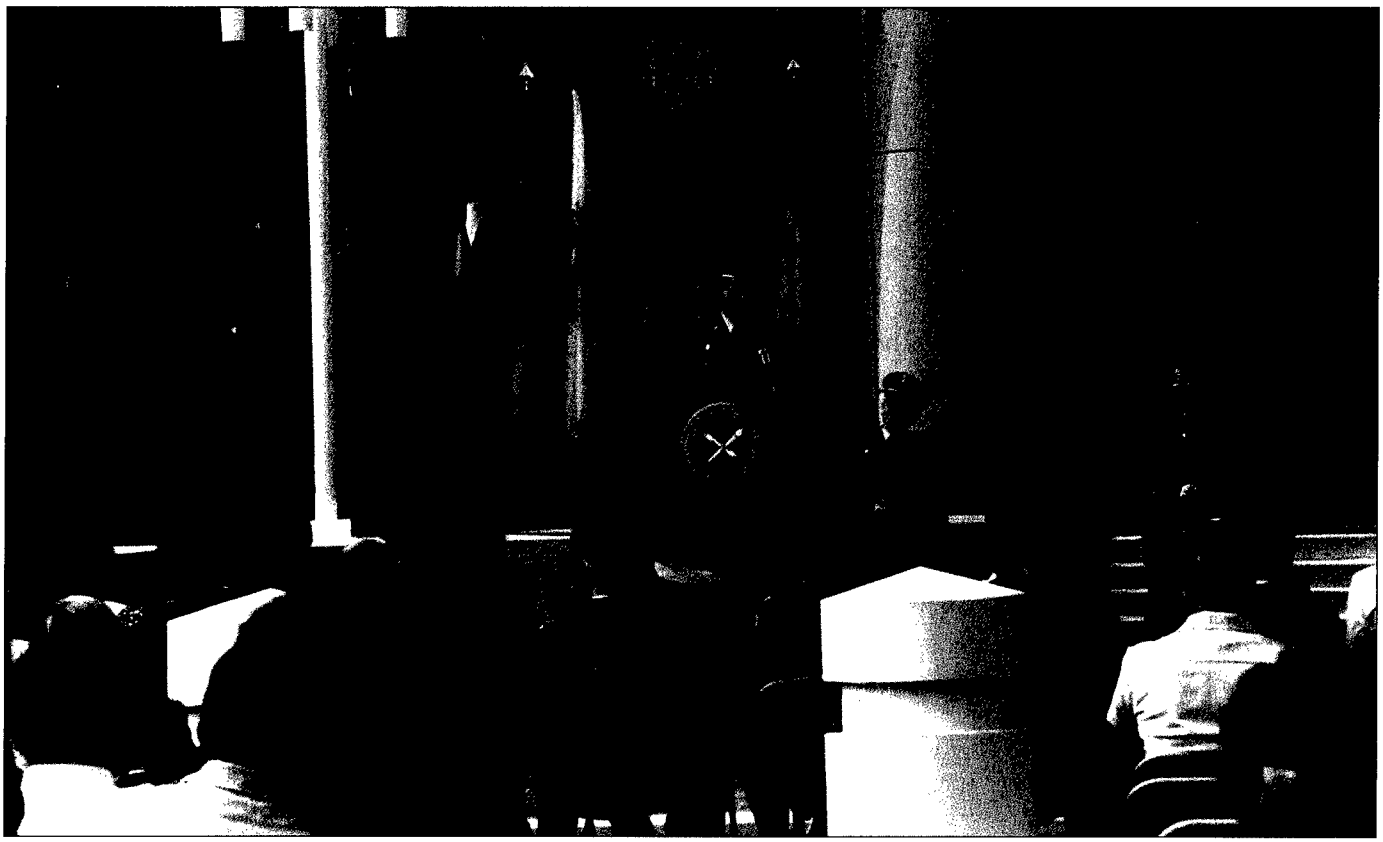
USMA

West Point graduation ceremony, June 10, 1940.



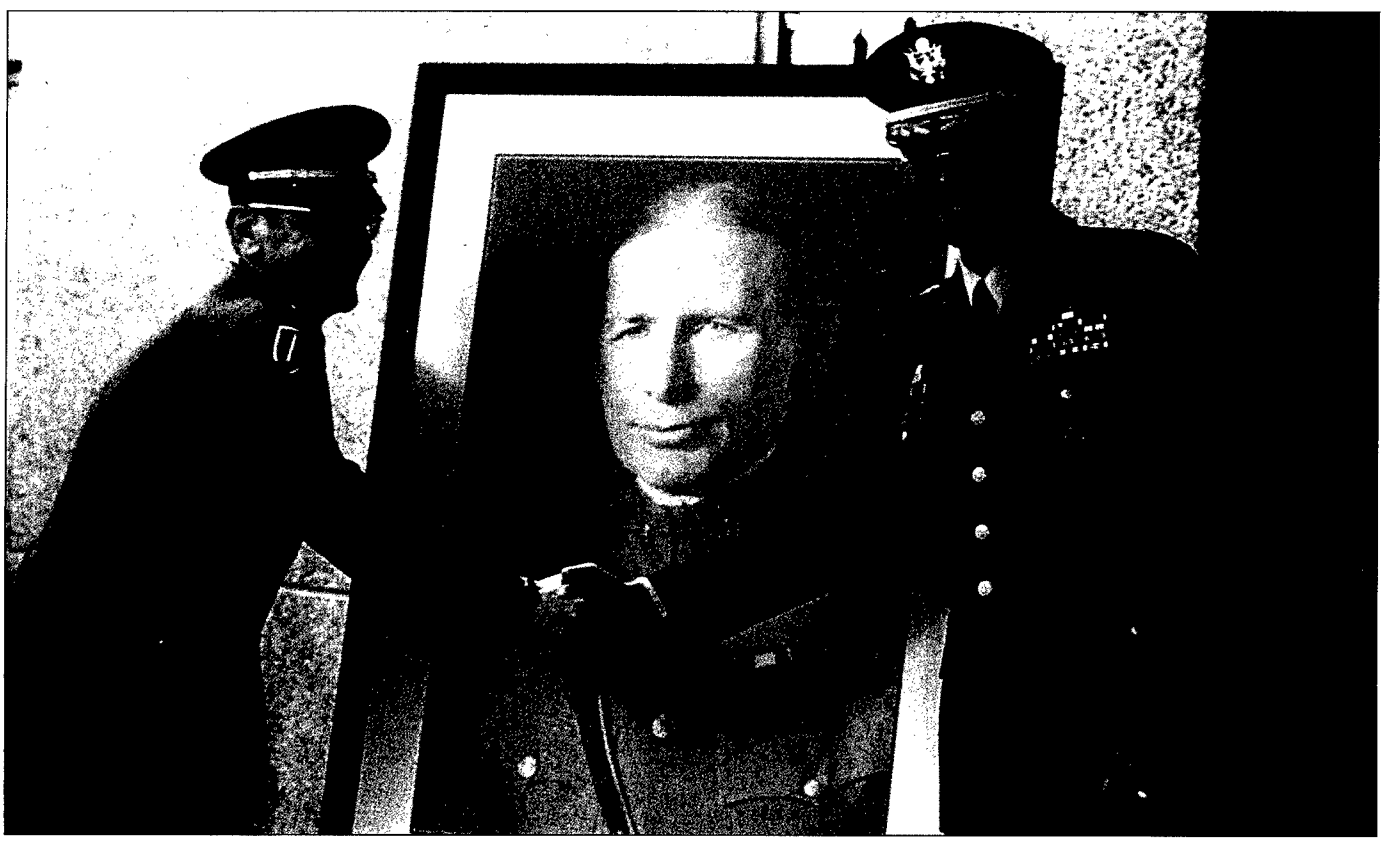
USMA

MG Nolan, retired, President of the Association of Graduates, at Alumni Review, June 10, 1940.



INSCOM

INSCOM's headquarters was named in honor of MG Dennis E. Nolan at the dedication ceremony on June 2, 1989.



NARA

MG Stanley H. Hyman (left) and LTG Harry E. Soyster shake hands after the unveiling of the portrait of MG Dennis E. Nolan.